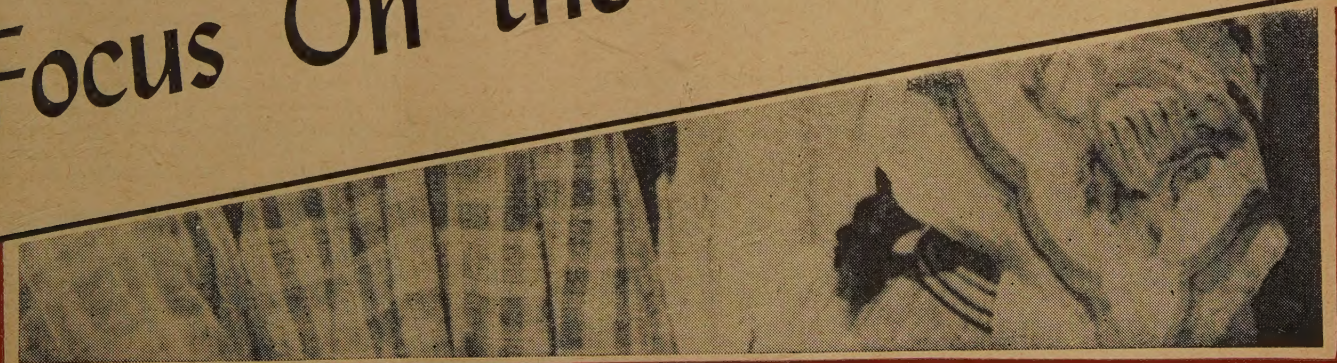
THE UNITED CHURCH

OBSERVER

HOLBROOK LIBRARY
PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

Focus On the World's Needy

see page 8



Letters

Simplify the Creed

Dear Sir: Replying to a comment from the secretary of the Committee on Faith that, "the man in the pew is 30 to 50 years behind in his thinking," many laymen recognize this, and recognize need for a correspondingly simple faith. When the technician builds a television set, he uses all his knowledge and skill; but he gives us our controls in a few buttons. So must our creed be simplified.

Our faith may be reduced to belief in:

(a) God as omnipotent, and as a Father concerned about each person.

(b) Christ, the Son who came to earth to show us the Father and His love.

(c) Prayer as a means of communicating with God and of receiving guidance through the Holy Spirit.

. . . The form of life after this world becomes unimportant in that the whole life is dedicated to God regardless of rewards or punishment.

Toronto 3, Ont. O. J. Eaton.

Dear Sir: Modern man is waiting for the "movement to intelligence" suggested by the Committee on Faith, whose recent report is making favourable impact upon thousands of nominal but highly puzzled Christians.

Thinking man applauds rejection of the mediaeval Christian Church, but deplores the official Protestant retention of so much stupid ancient dogma.

The United Church of Canada will have a tremendous future if it leads the way to a programme of thought and conduct compatible with modern concepts of an intelligent era. . .

Winnipeg 1, Man. G. Stevens.

Such a Pity!

Dear Sir: Having read most of the book entitled **Life and Death,** I think it is a pity that such learned men as those connected with the publishing of this book would waste their precious time writing about prayers for the dead and about Purgatory.

These two things are not found in the Bible.

Waterford, Ont. Frank Pritchard.

Money for Missions

Dear Sir: Was happy to see the letter in a recent issue commending the methods used to raise money for "missions" by The People's Church. . . Many churches now use the "Faith Promise" method begun by Dr. J. Oswald Smith.

. . . If C. J. Geatrix is giving as much or more to the M and M fund of the United Church, well and good. But if not, he would do well to examine his motives for changing from the People's to the United Church.

Bounty, Sask. Mrs. M. Read.

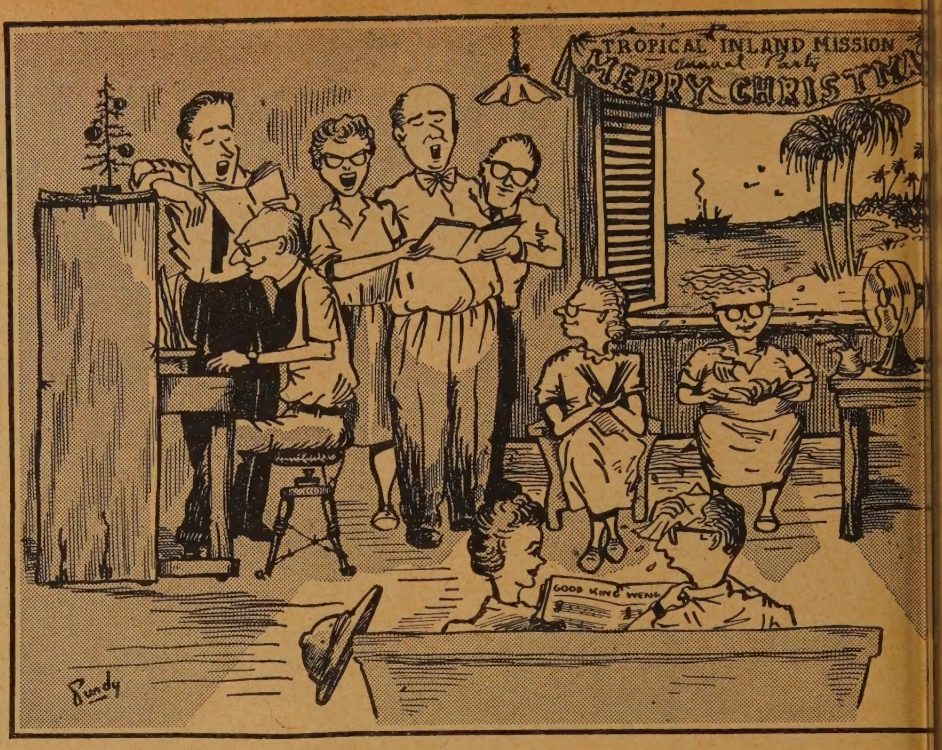
Federation Rejoices in Missions

Dear Sir: . . . When we had a WMS, its membership was about a dozen elderly ladies. The WA members felt that the WMS had a "holier than thou" attitude and didn't get to understand the great work they were doing. The WMS was always financially embarrassed and finally called on the WA for assistance.

In a town of 500 people and a United Church charge of 200 there was a lot of overlapping. Finally we formed a Women's Federation. That was 10 years ago, and there is more interest in missions than ever before.

Our federation has the monthly meeting for devotion and business. It is divided into four groups with about 20 members in each. The groups have their own officers and meet once a month, in the homes. It is at these meetings the WMS study books are studied. Some of the members do not attend the main federation meeting, but we wouldn't miss a group meeting. We never have difficulty getting our allocation and rejoice at the interest in missions.

Milestone, Sask. Mrs. I. C. Glenn.



"I just can't get up much enthusiasm for 'When the snow lay 'round about, deep and crisp and even

Doesn't Like Crosses

Dear Sir: A surprising number of church members disagree with the present trend of putting a brass cross in plain view of the congregation or on a church steeple. I've always understood that it was why Christ died, not on what that was important. And most important of all was His resurrection. How can, or why should, that be symbolized if we believe we are to worship God as a Spirit?

Mrs. Dorothy Rudderham.
Point Edward, N.S.

A Brain-washed Editor

Dear Sir: It is apparent that Mr. Homewood has been brain-washed by one-sided Israeli propaganda. One wonders how hard Mr. Homewood tried to get the whole picture from the pitiable refugees who are the victims of Zionism, American politics and one of the great bertayals in history. . .

May I suggest that you ask Dr. Ernest Howse to give us the Arab side. . .

London, Ont. Rev. G. W. Goth.

United Church and Foreign Policy

Dear Sir: There appears to be with The United Church of Canada a concerte agitation to influence Canadian Governme foreign policy along two lines: (a) Neutrali (independence of United States foreig policy, withdrawal from NATO and unila eral disarmament), and (b) recognition the Peoples' Republic of China, in spite current aggression against Tibet and neutr India.

This, at a time when there are encouragin indications of the possibility of better rel tions between the West and the USSR, not yet Communist China, still in i "Stalinist" stage.

This looks like a policy compounded expediency, loss of nerve and the abando ment of statesmanship. . .

Toronto, Ont. Rev. L. S. Albrigh

Happy Though Unified

Dear Sir: Having read the letters entitle "Whither the Women", and "Tastes Differ by a minister and lay woman in Ontari perhaps an opinion from one out where th great mountains rise to the skyline, and th salt wind blows in fresh from the Orien would be in order.

The reverend gentleman questions th new emphasis on woman's work and wonder why they can't go on just as they are. Mr Martin says the two groups think differentl and therefore never can become one, an she questions the results where the two hav already united. I wish she could visit som of the federations and see for herself wha is happening. I have a feeling her doubt would disappear.

Could it be that these persons have no studied Packets 1 and 2 on woman's work published by the commission appointed b the General Council in 1956. Every woman' group in the church was supposed to rea

(*Continued on page 4*)

Lovest thou me?

Demonstrate your love –

through the

MISSIONARY AND MAINTENANCE FUND

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

A Courtesy Ad.

them. Had they done so, they would understand the history of the movement and the progress of the commission and the work of the sub-committees. They would read that in 1956, after frank and open discussion by representatives from every province in the dominion, both in the Woman's Association Council and the Board of the Woman's Missionary Society, a vote was taken and approval given for the formation of a unified organization for the women of the United Church, with the reservation that all of value in both organizations be conserved. General Council approved and the commission was appointed.

This action was brought about (not by Toronto boards) but by the fact that in many places federations (which is not the complete answer) were being formed in well-organized churches, and in new congregations. In British Columbia we have some 50 federations organized, happy in their work, unified in purpose, and contributing in a very real way to the total mission of the church.

Vancouver 15, B.C. (Mrs.) Anne D. Crook.

Keep It A Secret

Dear Sir: We should not try to determine the name of the millionth member of our church, as feelings of good people are apt to be hurt. . . We should leave the name of the millionth member a secret known only to God.

All our churches could receive new members about the same time on a specified Sunday called Jubilee Sunday. A drive could be instituted to put the membership over the millionth mark on this occasion. . .

Edwin A. S. Galbraith.

Goose Bay, Labrador.

Meeting Mr. Khrushchov

Dear Sir: As the daughter and wife of a minister of the United Church, I find Mrs. J. L. Cook's request that "the United Church give leadership" to answer the threat of Khrushchov's boast about a Communist society, a challenge and an opportunity. . .

In Mr. Khrushchov we are confronted by a man with an ideology, which is the consuming passion of his life. To meet thi threat we need to see that our Christianit becomes an ideology that is the consumin passion of our life.

The real trouble in the world today i not so much the advance of Communism a the blind complacency and lack of mora and spiritual backbone in those of us wh call ourselves Christians.

. . . I believe that the United Church, wit the added ideology of Moral Rearmamen can achieve its highest destiny and give lead to our nation that would make it pattern of God-controlled living for th whole world.

Lachine, Que. Mrs. H. A. River

Know Where We Stand

Dear Sir: We are grateful to you for you article on the new Anglican Primate. It i good to know just where he stands on th union question. It is revealing to read tha "he suspects that the majority of his clerg would feel happier if the conversations wer with the Presbyterians, Orthodox, or Roma Catholics." Perhaps you ought to let hin know that a good many of us would fee happier if the conversations were with th Baptists, Pentecostals, or Nazarenes.

Thanks for your suggested conclusion "that union will not come in our day." A the same time, I am strongly in favour o encouraging respect and harmony, an adventures in understanding at the loca level. . . I admire and appreciate the wor which the Anglican Church has done in thi country. But I believe the United Churc is better fitted for the task that confronts u in Canada today.

Victoria, B.C. (Rev.) J. G. G. Bompas

We Like our Children

Dear Sir: I am glad that I belong to a church that takes an interest in children where the children's story is part of the orde of worship. Our minister leaves his pulpi and meets the children at the front of th church at an early hour in the service for a children's story and children's hymn, an then the children retire during the last vers of the hymn. The idea of a children's praye on Communion Sundays has also been use in place of the story. I want my church t be a place **where children are recognize and are happy in it**—a church where parent and children may worship together. Adult sit quietly during the story or prayer an join the children in singing the hymn bu remain seated, and if they don't want t listen to the children's story, they are fre to pray for children and for God's blessing and guidance on the service. The above type of service to my mind emphasizes the Bibl teaching in regard to a child and we are following in the steps of the Master who gathered children up in His arms when the disciples turned them away. . .

Saint John, N.B. Lillian G. Belyea

The "Not-so-old" Old Hymns

Dear Sir: A letter appealing for "old-time" hymns lists "The Old Rugged Cross," "On the other side of Jordan," and "Lead Kindly Light." Cardinal Newman's beautiful hymn "Lead Kindly Light" is of course well-known, and it belongs to the last century. . .

"The Old Rugged Cross" is not yet 50 years old as a hymn and "On the other side" is not yet 30 years old. . .

These hymns are not old by comparison with some of the great unfamiliar hymns in "The Hymnary". . .

Toronto 7, Ont. Gilbert Templeton

JACK FROTH protests

Frothy Christmas Letters

Dear Sir: Through the medium of your excellent paper, may I register a mild protest. It is against the mimeographed form Christmas letter that is being used more and more by United Church ministers as a means of communicating with their friends at Christmas. I dislike them because they are too impersonal. But I am bothered more by the contents of the letter than by the idea of them. They are too much sunshine and clear sailing, success, happiness, progress. You sometimes wonder if anything disagreeable ever happens to these people. To discourage people from including me on their mailing list this year, I am going to send out a form letter of my own. This is the way it will read:

* * * *

To All Our Friends Wherever You Are—In Canada and the World—

Greetings from the Froths! May peace be multiplied amongst you at this gracious season of felicitation. . .

Your friends, the Froths send greetings from all of us at Fat Chance. We have had a wonderful year. Blessings have been poured upon us. The children are all well and thriving.

Jacqueline is doing extremely well at school. She passed her entrance exam this year and was class valedictorian. She also plays centre on the town hockey team. She is getting to be quite a big girl now and will be 21 next year.

Jake is his usual irrepressible self . . . fun-loving, good-natured, but with his serious side, too. He is doing extremely well and the warden says that perhaps next year he will be paroled.

Mother, of course, is up to her ears in church work. She leads the Junior Choir, CGIT, Explorers, and the Sunday school. Recently she was elected president of the Men's Club and she loves it. On the side, she has taken up totem pole carving and she is doing so well at it. We are very proud of her.

Daddy has had a busy year. The church has dropped in membership a great deal and the givings were down a few thousand, but nevertheless, he has enjoyed the work thoroughly. There is a wonderful feeling here between him and the board. They get along famously and the joking back and forth is great fun. They keep kidding that he should resign and go somewhere else and funny things like that. To overcome his recent salary reductions, he has taken up selling hearing aids on the side. He is doing extremely well and loves it.

Well, enough for now, dear friends. Drop in and see us if you are in Fat Chance. We won't be able to put you up—seeing we have had to take in boarders —but there is a good hotel in the next town.

'Bye now,

THE FROTHS

Jack, Janice, Jacqueline and Jake.

See what I mean, Mr. Editor? If this doesn't cause my friends to throw out my addressograph plate — nothing will.

Drop me a line sometime (by hand).

THE UNITED CHURCH
OBSERVER

DECEMBER 15, 1959

Published under authority of The General Council, The United Church of Canada, by The United Church Publishing House

Book Steward: C. H. Dickinson

Editor: A. C. Forrest
Managing Editor: E. L. Homewood
News Editor: Marjorie Macdonald
Editorial Assistant: Margaret Pryce
Business Manager: W. J. Bradshaw

All changes of address should be sent to the business offices: 299 Queen St. W., Toronto 2 B, Ont.
Editorial Offices: 85 St. Clair Avenue East, Toronto 7, Ont.
Advertising Representatives: W. F. L. Edwards & Co. Ltd., 34 King St. E., Toronto, Ont.

Members of the Audit Bureau of Circulations, The Canadian Church Press, The Associated Church Press of America, Religious News Service.

22 issues per year—the first and fifteenth of each month except July and August (one issue each) subscription rate, $2.00 per year, to any address in the world. Single copies 15c.

Authorized as second class mail, Post Office Dept., Ottawa.

Bid Series, Vol. 130, No. 3 - New Series, Vol. 21, No. 18

Circulation this issue: 264,429

contents

	Page
Editorials	6
They Put Christ in Saturnalia	7
Focus on the World's Needy	8
Dilemma in Segregation	12
Christmas Worship Service	14
The Story of Christmas	15
Report and Opinion	16
Whose Birthday Is It?	19
Question Box	20
Devotions	21
Books	22
The Man Who Wrote "Messiah"	25
About People and Places	26

Activity at Fair Haven

IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The Church and Old People
by GENEVIEVE CARDER

Segregation in Birmingham
by JOHN WICKLEIN

Observations

THE MOST FASCINATING READING—we expect it is more fascinating to us than to others—we've seen lately, has come from the experts who "sample" THE OBSERVER readers. They tell us what is liked and isn't, and what kind of people make up the three-quarters of a million audience. That high figure is arrived at by discovering 2.06 readers per copy in the average home, plus 34.8% who pass OBSERVERS on to their neighbours.

SOME THINGS WE BELIEVE without question, such as how men readers put editorials on the top of their list; and women put letters-to-the-editor first, followed by editorials, question box and cartoon. However, we think there must be some mistake when 3% find the editorials dull, and 3.6% superficial. We note they are the younger readers. And we were quite surprised to discover that one third wanted THE OBSERVER to omit political discussion. However, fully one half wanted THE OBSERVER to produce more articles on national affairs, and readership of pieces on drug addiction, penal reform and so on, has been very high.

WE WERE SURPRISED and pleased to find that when asked what they would like more of, both men and women, put "Articles on the Bible" at the top of the list. Women put articles on church work, second, men said, pieces on the Christian faith. As for publishing sermons, men said, "well, maybe," but women put them at the bottom of their list. However, there seemed to be a little inconsistency when we listed a dozen articles we had published and asked which they had read. A story on Dr. Ray McCleary, and another one on a former Catholic Priest stood at the top for both men and women, followed by a panel on race relations, a feature on a women's prison and another on drug addiction.

A PIECE ABOUT NUCLEAR weapons and the Bible by a professor was at the bottom of the lady-readers' list, but fared a little better with men. And a panel on overseas missions trailed a feature on Elliot Lake and church in a uranium boom town. Home missions seem more popular than overseas.

IMPROVEMENT IS NEEDED, 20% of the readers say, in the "question box," but they read it. And despite a hand-full of vigorous protesters, more readers rate the cartoon as "good" than any other feature. Our cover stories received the least criticism, and substantial appreciation. One survey produced 261 readers who said they were "good," 15 who said they needed improvement. The 15, of course, are right, as we keep telling ourselves around the editorial office.

IF WE HAD MORE MONEY to spend on improving THE OBSERVER what would you like? was a question we put to 3,000 subscribers. Both men and women said, "more pages of reading matter." But a very substantial number discouraged our dreaming by saying, "Leave as it is." Only a few said they would like better paper, and more colour. For this we were grateful, for it costs a lot of money. Some dear souls said, "Give it to the M and M," and frugal types suggested cutting the subscription price.

FARM PEOPLE comprise 25% of our readers; big city people another 25%; 43% are housewives, and 66% have high school education. 18.8% have four or more years of college education. 24% are professional and 14% are business people. We were startled to see only 3% are labourers and hope this means that people who labour all day are too tired to fill out questionnaires at night.

* * * * *

● NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTIES in church, and our stories about them, evoked a great deal of interest other years. The custom has been spreading. More churches each year plan social affairs, some of them quite gala, so that their people may have a great happy time together within the fellowship, and without benefit of stimulants that depress.

ONE YOUNG MINISTER we know planned late Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve services in his village church, two years ago. He was especially interested in attracting the young people. Christmas Eve was a great and well-attended service. The New Year's Eve one wasn't. His diagnosis: most of the young people were out baby-sitting for their elders who were at New Year's Eve affairs, elsewhere.

BUT THE YPU's of the churches, presbyteries and conferences have taken the lead in organizing the New Year's Eve parties. They combine services of worship at the midnight hour, with food and a good time. ●

Editorial

His Covenant

FOR most of us Christmas brings added joy. But to some, especially those who are lonely, for whom the year has brought failure, illness, bereavement, and separation, it may be the saddest season of the year. But even for them it need not be a time of undue sorrow.

For Christmas renews the old covenant. God is still in his world reconciling us to him through his love. And God's children, whether on this side of the world or the other; whether on this side of Jordan or the other, are in his hands. We are still persuaded that neither life nor death can separate us from his love. God is still in charge of things, and of us.

THE CHURCH AND "THE NEW WAR"

AS we move toward another birthday of the Prince of Peace, and approach the end of the 6th decade of the 20th century, certain tremendous developments come into focus on the international scene.

First is that the cold war is being called off, and a new war is shaping up on the economic front. It will be fought out in the less-developed countries of Africa and Asia.

Also, both communist and western worlds recognize they have to co-exist. It will be an uneasy, hostile co-existence, but there is no alternative. The west doesn't intend to crumble from within, or be destroyed from without. Communism has stabilized itself in Russia and is stabilizing itself in China.

It will be an armed co-existence. And while one of the great new facts of our times is a world opinion steadily rising against nuclear testing and increased armaments, much of the talk about it is unrealistic. The west is in no mood for disengagement, for it does not and cannot trust Russia. When there is lack of trust, only a rigid system of inspection will help. And inspection cannot show what armaments there are, only what factories are producing them.

Enough nuclear weapons can be hidden in a Russian bathroom to blow up New York. This means that the co-existence will continue to be armed; that steps toward disarmament will be slow, but we hope, inevitable.

However, one positive thing has emerged. For the first time in man's history no nation can win a war. And this is known by the great powers. In the past, when nations went to war their leaders believed they had a better than even chance of profiting by victory. Now all informed people know that none can profit by a nuclear war.

The great danger, of course, lies in the growth of the nuclear club, and the possibility that an irresponsible act will set off a chain reaction.

Having reached this stage, warfare has been transferred to the economic front. There is to be a "sustained and massive effort to help the less-developed countries help themselves." Part of this is dictated by the so-called enlightened self-interest. The world knows, for example, that Western Europe was put back on its feet and the west saved by the Marshall Plan. But much of it is idealistic too. Many among our leaders want to help undeveloped countries because it is right to ease their suffering.

In this, the church has a tremendous part to play. It means that we should continue to study international affairs, pray for peace, and pray for our enemies, as well as our friends. It means, too, that the church needs to enter on a mission to the world, to begin a "massive and sustained effort to help the less developed churches help themselves."

THE DEATH SENTENCE SHOULD GO NOW

WHEN Mr. Fulton became Minister of Justice, it appeared inevitable that capital punishment would go. Two sessions of Parliament have passed and still we have the death sentence. We assume the Conservatives are waiting for public opinion to catch up.

We may be grateful that the cabinet has commuted so many sentences to life imprisonment—26 of the first 33 since the Conservatives took office. Mr. Diefenbaker points out that "no person convicted of murder has been hanged where there has been a recommendation for mercy from the jury.

But this is not a good thing to continue. It is best to leave these matters, with the exception of very special circumstances, to the courts, and have elected officials interfere as infrequently as possible. Under present law when a person is found guilty of murder, the death sentence is mandatory.

The realist sympathizes with the government, for it is apparent that popular opinion has been steadily shifting. Even within the United Church, normally expected to be progressive in such matters, the shift came slowly, for only five years ago its General Council split right down the middle on the matter. Three years ago it took a firm stand for abolition.

Wise men are at work in this and related matters, and a greater number of Canadians are now aware that we have too long remained among the backward nations in our penology. The death penalty has been a symbol of our backward attitude to "punishment". We can prophesy that within a very few years there will be radical changes in our laws and a much more enlightened treatment of offenders.

Detention and treatment will be aimed at the rehabilitation of offenders. And outmoded laws reflecting a false philosophy of "punishment" will be discarded. Our property and lives will be safer and our laws better kept.

When this comes, society will be better protected (and this is of tremendous importance) against its criminal and mentally disturbed elements. Misfits will be treated before they can do greater harm, greater numbers of offenders will be helped into useful living instead of being sent to schools of crime, and the tax-payer will be relieved of the heavy burden of maintaining so many outmoded institutions.

In editorial exposition

They Put Christ in Saturnalia

By N. BRUCE McLEOD*

THERE is no other time like it in all the years. The candles are lit; the carols sung; old decorations are dug ut of the attic along with some old emories. Parcels are pushed under beds nd into the back of cupboards; cards, esigned over a year ago, are sent to the eople next door, and to old friends not eard from since last year. There is a urry of busyness and an exciting smell of urkey and evergreen.

This is all so much a part of our life, is startling to realize that things have not lways been this way, and that for some 00 years after Jesus died there was no elebration of Christmas at all. The earliest f the four Gospels, St. Mark, never even ientions Jesus' birth, and Paul, whose ritings were the earliest of all in the New estament, never once felt it necessary to ention the wise men, or the shepherds, r the star in the east.

Answer to a heresy

That was because it was not Jesus' birth hat impressed these early Christians, but ather the fact that he lived and died nd rose again. They did not emphasize hristmas day once a year, but Sunday—o more Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath—as the day they met together to remember hat Jesus was raised from the dead for heir salvation on the first day of the week.

From where, then, did the idea of celerating Christmas come? Probably, say hen who know, it came as an answer to a rong belief or heresy that was beginning o spread. For, as the years went by, some hristians were saying that when Jesus was orn he was just like anyone else, and only hen he was baptized and heard the voice rom heaven did he become God's Christ n earth.

These Christians began to hold special celebrations to commemorate the baptism and so dramatize their belief before the world. January 6th was chosen, not because it was the day on which Jesus really was baptized, but because there were already celebrations for various pagan gods held on that day, and these Christians wanted to declare in dramatic manner that the appearance of God's Christ on earth made these pagan gods unnecessary.

Christmas in January

The main stream of the Christian Church, however, did not agree with this interpretation of Jesus' baptism. At a special gathering in the year 325, called the Council of Nicaea, the Church officially declared that, as the stories in Matthew and Luke said, Jesus was God in human life, right from the moment of his birth.

To dramatize this declaration, special birth or Christmas services began to be held. At first they took place the night before the January 6th baptism celebration. Soon, however, it was felt that to underline their belief more vividly, a separate date should be chosen. And in Rome, around the middle of the fifth century, December 25th was picked as the day.

It was several centuries before the custom of holding Christmas on that day spread among western Christians. And even today some Christians of the Eastern churches celebrate Jesus' birthday on January 6th.

Why was December 25th chosen? Certainly not because men had suddenly found out that this was the day Jesus had been born.

Already in the Roman Empire, December 25th was known far and wide as the feast of the Saturnalia. This was a celebration in honour of the Sun god, who, after the shortest day of the year, was beginning his climb to power and strength again. It was a great time! Bonfires were lit and lights put in windows to encourage the sun. Gifts were exchanged. People never started a war on that day or executed a criminal, and during the time of this feast, slaves were given temporary freedom.

Right there were two good reasons why December 25th was a good day to choose. Most of the Roman Christians were slaves, and that day they would be free to attend services. Also, the idea of the Sun god was a good one.

Today Christians worship on "the day of the sun." In the New Testament, Jesus had been pictured as the Light of a dark world. He was, Christians told the sun worshippers, the Sun behind all suns. So fires could still be lit, and lights put in windows—now on trees—not to honour the Sun god but to declare that Jesus was the Light of the world.

Take over old customs

So regular Christmas celebrations began. And, as Christians went to other countries, more local customs were taken over and given Christian meaning. For centuries before Julius Cæsar arrived in Britain, the Druids had been burning the Yule log in honour of the god Thor, on the 24th and 25th of December. Scholars tell us that the mistletoe was first gathered because of its association with the death of Balder, and that the waits and the mummers and the boar's head feast—now the turkey or goose dinner—were either original Druid rites or came into being when the Romans arrived with their Saturnalia customs.

Christmas has come to us with all sorts of trappings and customs, both new and old. And it is somehow fitting. For according to our New Testament, Jesus came not to destroy but to fulfil; not to say to the world that all that had gone before was wrong, but rather to say that the one God who was at the end of all men's yearnings, had in fact yearned his way to them. In other words: Joy to the world. The Lord has come. So deck the halls. . . ●

**The Rev. N. B. McLeod is minister of St. tephen's-on-the-Hill, Lorne Park, Ont.*

Arab refugees check clothing in a relief centre in Jerusalem. The United Church sent 64 tons of clothing this year to the Middle East.

Refugees mill about an 11-year-old camp in Palestine. United Church sent $8,000 for work here. There are 1,087,629 Arab refugees.

A refugee learns a trade in a Jerusalem bakery. Church grants aid such self-help projects. This man will also be assisted in setting up a small shop.

Focus

Photos supplied by Church World Service, United Nations and World Council of Churches Information Department.

Cover Story

Korean youngsters, orphaned by war, look for food and clothing. They were helped by a United Church grant of $37,000 and 104 tons of clothing. Clinics, hospitals and self-help projects were aided.

Thousands of Japanese are homeless and destitute following floods of recent typhoon Vera. World Council of Churches personnel gave immediate aid, with food, clothing and money. United Church sent $5,000. Another $8,000 will go from Overseas Missions and WMS.

on the World's Needy

WHILE North Americans prepare to celebrate Christmas, the United Nations-sponsored World Refugee Year turns the spotlight on the world's needy. Around the globe, millions are homeless and hungry, or living in squalid conditions, because of war or disaster.

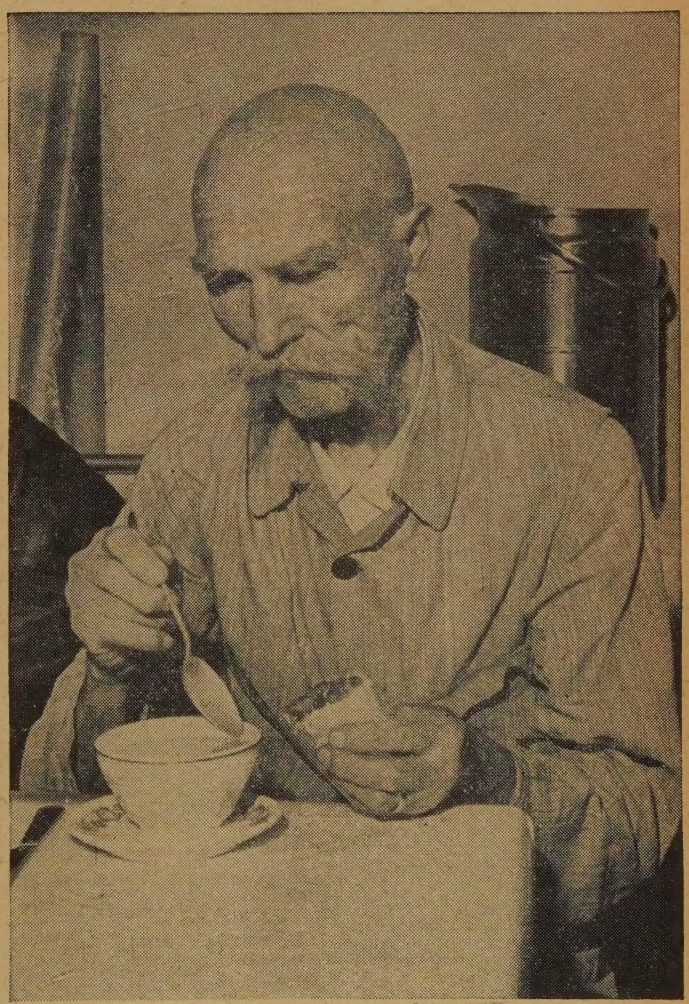
Over a million Arab refugees are in Middle East camps. Fifteen thousand young Tibetans live in recently-established camps over the Indian border. The India shuttle continues: Muslims to Pakistan, Hindus to India, with thousands homeless. Over a million refugees from mainland China huddle in shacks on the Hong Kong hills. And thousands of Japanese are homeless following typhoon Vera.

Among the 135,000 left in the European camps, the most destitute are the 30,000 "hard-core" cases, the aged, chronically sick and handicapped—the result of nations choosing only the young, strong and highly-skilled.

Sixty-one governments and scores of voluntary agencies—

(Over)

In Hong Kong, a refugee mother fastens leg braces on five-year-old son. Relief programme here got $15,000 this year for supplementary feeding, clinics, housing, student aid, and rehabilitation work.

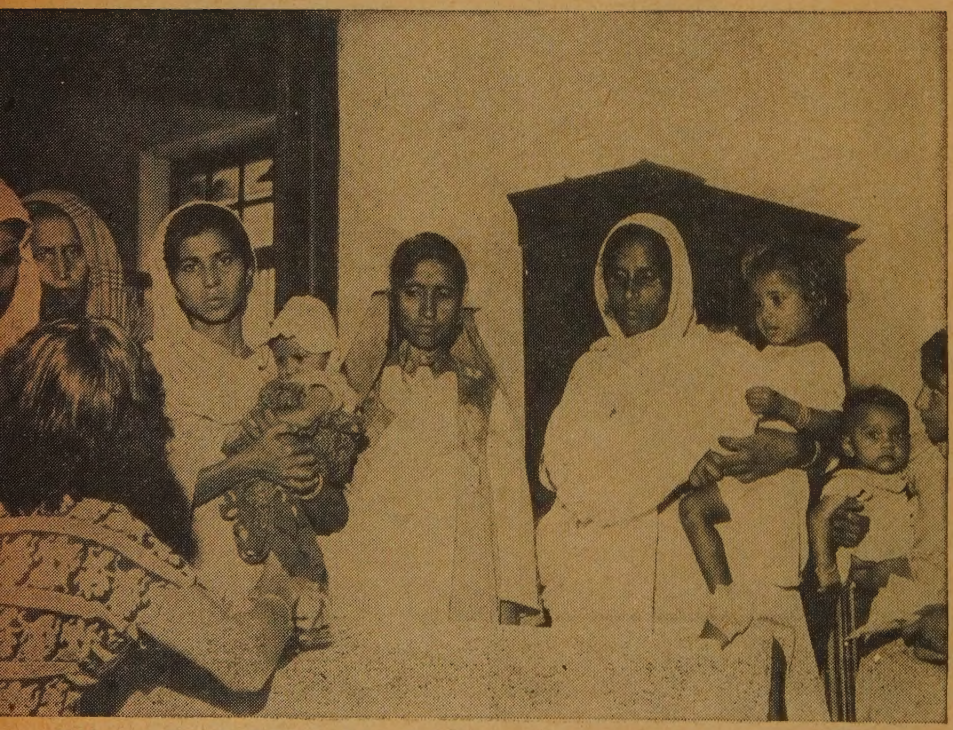


An aged Orthodox Russian refugee from the China mainland, via Hong Kong, has first meal in new home in Nice, France. The World Council of Churches supplied a visa. United Church grants aid WCC programme.

A doctor and student from a Christian medical college distribute milk powder to children in flood-marooned village in India. The programme has had United Church aid.

Focus on the World's Needy

In Greece, flood victims get food from relief distribution centre. World Council of Churches uses United Church grants for on-the-spot aid.



Mothers in Karachi, Pakistan, bring their babies to a clinic for medical care. The United Church sent $1,000 to Pakistan for emergency relief.

An agriculturalist shows Greek farmers the benefits of proper farming methods. The United Church sent $1,500 to aid WCC volunteer teams in establishing village self-help projects.

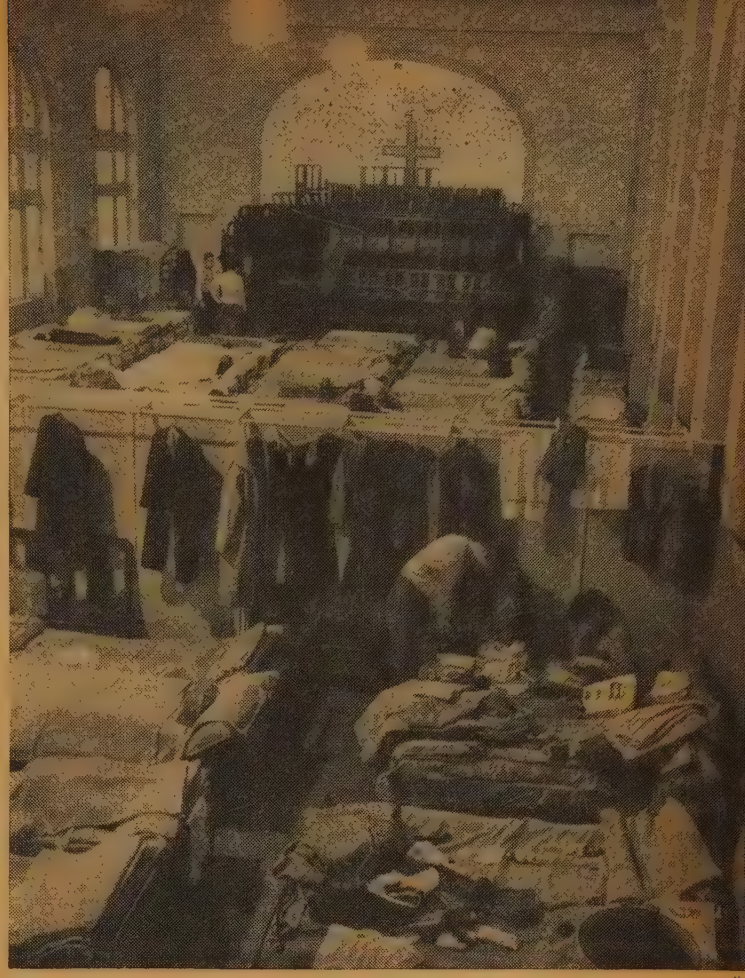
A Waldensian worker aids a refugee on arrival in Italy where he will be cared for in an old people's home built by the church. Waldensian Church gets yearly grant of $5,000 from the United Church.

hief among them the World Council of Churches — have nswered the call of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees o help clear the camps of those who have been there 10 years r more, and to increase aid to others. Canada has announced t will take 100 tubercular cases and their families.

The United Church of Canada gives one half of its annual verseas aid budget to the World Council of Churches for use n emergencies. Of the remainder, a portion goes to Korea and Hong Kong; the rest is used as need arises.

The Executive of General Council has set up a committee or World Refugee Year to co-ordinate the refugee work of the Board of Home Missions and the Committee on Overseas Relief. When immigration difficulties are overcome, congregations will be asked to sponsor refugee families.

The refugee aid programme is an integral part of the Missionary and Maintenance Fund. Additional contributions are being asked for through the special Christmas offering. If this year's objective is met it will mean an additional $250,000 to spend during World Refugee Year. ●



The crowded quarters of a West Berlin reception centre for refugees from East Germany. Over 400 cross the border every night. The United Church gave $10,000 this year for their aid, and sent $1,000 to support a West Berlin rest centre for pastors.

Thousands of refugees still wait in European camps. These Hungarians at Traiskirchen, near Vienna, look for news of relatives left behind and for a brighter future in the free world. United Church sent another $10,000 this year for Hungarian refugee relief.

Churches of southern U.S.A. facing

A Dilemma on Segregation

By JOHN WICKLEIN*

ONE OF A SERIES

THE churches in the South today are faced with their greatest dilemma since the dispute over slavery. The current crisis is similar to that at the time of the Civil War. Then the question was :"Is slavery Christian?" Today the question is: "Is segregation Christian?"

A hundred years ago white church leaders contended that slavery was compatible with their Christian convictions. Today no major denomination in the South and few leading churchmen assert that segregation can be reconciled with their religion.

And therein lies the dilemma: If Southern white churchmen follow their conviction and work for integration, they are damned at home; if they compromise their conviction and condone segregration, they are damned in the nation and the world. Many clergymen have made the difficult choice, and placed themselves in the forefront of groups acting to end the "peculiar institution" of twentieth-century America.

"Very few people in the South are taking a public position for integration, but in every instance where some people have taken leadership, ministers are part of this leadership," said Dr. Herman Long, head of the Congregational Christian department of race relations, with offices at Fisk University, Nashville.

Usually the ministers are far ahead of their parishioners in the fight. They find intense opposition from their own churches and from the community. Some are dismissed for their views.

Southern white church members, individually and in lay groups, have overwhelmingly supported the policy of "white only" for their churches. When the mass of churches in this church going region is considered — estimates run as high as 100,000 — there are next to no integrated congregations.

Those who would desegregate the churches do not look to local congregations as a source of aid and comfort. They do find hope in some larger units of church life. All the major denominations in the South have adopted policies supporting the Supreme Court's mandate for integrating the schools; almost all have condemned segregation as morally wrong.

Laymen Lag

Similar policy statements have been approved in many church regional organizations, by ministerial associations and by women's and young people's groups.

Although there are exceptions, the laymen's groups have been more conservative. This is thought to be partly because the men feel more vulnerable to reprisal from segregationists, especially in their jobs and businesses.

The larger denominations support a number of agencies working directly in the South for the cause of racial equality, both in church and out.

At regional group levels, interracial meetings and religious retreats are held. In some national denominations, such as the Protestant Episcopal and the Presbyterian, (both North and South) church conferences and jurisdictional areas are integrated.

In other denominations, such as the Methodist Church and the Congregational Christian Churches, white and Negro conference areas are kept separate.

Indication of Gap

This, itself, is an indication of the gap between national pronouncement and local practice. The dualism is not necessarily hypocritical, because the people at home often take violent exception to policy statements approved at a convention held far from their precincts and in the limelight of national publicity.

The largest Protestant denomination in the region, the Southern Baptist Convention with 9,000,000 members, has voted to stand with the Supreme Court's decision on school integration. Yet at the local level its churches have done next to nothing to promote integration and much to continue segregation.

One of the strongest voices heard from Southern white Methodists, the second largest white church group in the region, is that of the Methodist Laymen's Union in Birmingham, Ala. This group was formed specifically to insure that the Central Jurisdiction of the denomination, containing all the Southern Negroes should not be integrated with the white conferences it overlaps.

In the Roman Catholic Church, the Council of Bishops nationally and several bishops in Southern dioceses have condemned segregation as morally wrong and sinful.

Catholic bishops in four border cities— St. Louis, Louisville, Washington and Wheeling, W. Va. — integrated their parochial schools before the Supreme Court decision in May 1954. A few other bishops have acted since.

Catholic Theory Differs From Action

In theory, all Catholic churches are integrated; in practice, they are not. Negro members attending masses, which by church law are open to all, normally seat themselves at the rear. Almost nowhere do they participate in all church activities.

Yet the fact that many Catholic masses are interracial has spurred a number of white Protestant leaders to offer Negroes the opportunity to come freely to services, even though the congregation will not extend them the hand of fellowship.

As in other areas of Southern life, the sentiment among white churchmen against integration increases as the percentage of Negroes in the population increases. Church opposition to "mixing" is most vocal in Alabama, with South Carolina and Mississippi close behind.

Interracial churches are rare to nonexistent; where they do exist, their members try hard to keep the fact quiet for fear their lives may be threatened or their sanctuaries bombed. On a local level, white ministers do not sit in the same associations with Negro ministers.

White parishioners who exclude Negroes from membership, do so primarily for social reasons. The one most often offered is that close contacts in the social milieu of church life, especially among the young, would lead inevitably to mixed marriages. Many white church men are determined to prevent "mixing" even at the expense of

From a series in The New York Times, with permission.

ving their actions denounced by Northern
berals as lacking in Christian charity.

Just People

"Segregation is maintained by older folks
ho too often dominate our churches," a
hite clergyman said at a conference in
atlinburg, Tenn. "Young people don't
ree with their parents, and would wel-
me integration. Young people go away
school in the North, and find the Negroes
their classes are just people."

John Marion, a Virginian who directs
nited (North) Presbyterian Church work
race relations from his office in Nash-
ille, thinks a big change in attitude on
ce is taking place in church rank and file.
lany will not admit it even to their
eighbours, he says, because of fear.

Threat From Outside

The opposition to church integration
at comes from outside the churches is
ugher, more deeply grounded in prejudice
nd hate. It is the threat in the night from
ese people—often members of the more
abid White Citizens Councils or the
u Klux Klan — that non-segregationist
inisters fear even more than loss of their
ulpits.

A prominent Congregational layman in
ew Orleans said that one Sunday recently
white couple walked down the aisle of a
egro church and asked the minister if
ey might become members.

The minister, surprised, made an appoint-
ent to talk to them about it, and then
ent directly for advice to another minister
ho was white.

"If I take them in," he said, "it would
ause a stir. What should I do?"

The white minister looked at him
olemnly. "If a Negro couple walked down
he aisle in my church on Sunday, I'd just
ack up and leave town."

Quote The Bible

Clergymen who openly espouse segrega-
ion are usually from fundamentalist groups
independents, Baptists and others) who
elieve the Bible demands that the races
e kept apart. But the main stream of
outhern church leadership finds no Biblical
ustification for segregation.

Ideally, the majority believes with Paul:
"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there
s neither slave nor free, there is neither
nale or female; for you are all one in
hrist Jesus."

Last year a confidential poll by *Pulpit
Digest* indicated that four out of five
rotestant ministers in the South favoured
ntegration of the public schools. Some of
hem have had the temerity to speak out
n this and other racial issues, but most of
hem have not. A number of those who
ave taken pulpit stands for integration
ave been dismissed for doing it.

Still, the white liberal ministers of the
outh are the most powerful and respected

(*Continued on page* 18)

A Wise Man's Gift

THE WISE MEN showed their wisdom by presenting gifts to the Baby who was the Son of God.

A Wise Man's gift this Christmas is a gift to the Bible Society to provide the Scriptures for all men.

Your gift is urgently needed.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY IN CANADA

National Office 122 Bloor St. West Toronto 5

MOVING? ONE MONTH'S NOTICE IS REQUIRED to make a change of address

So if you are planning to move or if you have changed your residence, please advise us promptly.

Do You Ever Need

Printing?

We are experts in books, reports, advertising circulars, catalogues, brochures, inter-office memo pads, general printing.

Have You a Book Which Needs

A Special Binding?

The book may be a family Bible, a dictionary, or other reference book, a much-treasured book, or a new book for gift purposes. Choose leather, gold-stamped if you wish a *de luxe* binding for presentation purposes. Our factory is famed for its expert workmanship.

Let us estimate on your work

THE RYERSON PRESS

299 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO 2-B, CANADA

A Christmas Gift to last all year . . .

A SUBSCRIPTION TO

THE UNITED CHURCH

OBSERVER

Special Christmas Offer

	the cost	your remi
1 Gift Subscription .	$2.00	$2.00
2 Gift Subscriptions .	$1.90 each	$3.80
3 Gift Subscriptions .	$1.80 each	$5.40
4 Gift Subscriptions .	$1.70 each	$6.80
5 Gift Subscriptions .	$1.60 each	$8.00
6 or more Gift Subscriptions .	$1.50 each	

Your Name .....

Address .....

.....

Please enter the following Gift Subscriptions for which I enclose $.....

Name.....

Address .....

.....

Name.....

Address .....

.....

Name.....

Address .....

.....

Please send Greeting Cards:

☐ To my friends as listed

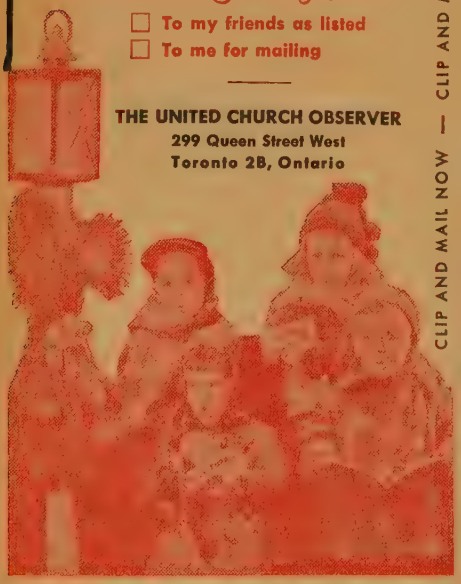
☐ To me for mailing

THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER

299 Queen Street West

Toronto 2B, Ontario

CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW



The Family Celebrates Christmas

by FRANK and MARGUERITE FIDLER

CHRISTMAS is the festival of the Christian family. Of all our celebrations and holidays it has gathered around it the widest variety of ceremonials and traditions. But at the heart of it is one essential. It celebrates the turning point of human history. A babe was born, in the humblest of family circumstances, who was both the perfect embodiment of God's love and the perfect revelation of what man might be. All of our ceremonials and traditional customs are a hollow mockery unless they lead us to recall that fact.

It is not the gifts we give and receive that exemplify Christmas. It is giving and receiving in the spirit of the love which is revealed in Jesus Christ. This is love that seeks the good of others—of all others, not just our family and friends—with joy and gladness.

Planning For Christmas

How do we cultivate this spirit in our family as we plan our celebration of Christmas! We do it by making sure that the activities of Christmas preparation do not crowd out consideration of the real meaning of Christmas.

Many families have worked together to make a simple Christmas crèche, or nativity scene, for the mantel or to place in a window. You can learn new carols—especially those from other lands. Discuss ways in which you can express the spirit of Christmas to someone outside of your circle of family and close friends. Are there older people whose children will not be coming home for Christmas?; or students away from home, perhaps from overseas?; is there a new Canadian family you can entertain? Has your family responded to the needs of the homeless in this World Refugee Year? Someone has described concerns of this kind as "giving gifts which cannot be wrapped." Even the smallest child can share in these.

Family Worship

Amidst all our other preparations for Christmas let us make plans for worship together in the home. This means most when parents and children plan together. It may be as simple as a familiar carol or Christmas hymn, a scripture passage, prayers of thanks, of consecration, and for others.

Many families will want to develop their own service, using recordings of Christmas music, encouraging each member of the family to lead in his own sentence prayer, or reading an appropriate scripture passage, or suggesting a favourite Christmas hymn or carol.

Here is a service for use in a family with primary age children. If different members of the family are to take part, they may copy out their parts beforehand.

A Prayer (Mother, or a child)

"Our thoughts go round the world
To children everywhere
So much of joy is ours, O God,
Help us to love and share.

This world, our home, is big,
But not too big to be
A place where friendliness, dear God,
Makes one big family."

(Jessie Eleanor Moore, Pilgrims Bible Stories for Children)

Scripture (Read by an older child, or by father)—Luke 2: 1-20.

"Jesus was born in a manger. God sent his greatest gift into the humblest kind of home. In fact Mary and Joseph were not in their own home. Like thousands of families around the world today they were 'on the move.'

"Another story in Matthew's gospel tells us that later Joseph had to take Mary and Jesus into another country to protect them from King Herod. This reminds us that God's love is intended for every child and for every family everywhere.

"As we joyfully celebrate our Christmas here, let us remember the children and families throughout the world who are hungry today, and ill clad and without homes of their own.

"How can we share our good things and our happiness with others?"

(Discuss how your family may show the spirit of Christmas to some other family in your neighbourhood or elsewhere, now and throughout the coming year.)

A Prayer (Led by an older child or one of the parents).

"Our Father
We love the Christmas time,
The fun of surprise,
And the joy of giving.
May Thy love
Come to all those
With whom we have tried to share.
Join us in a circle of friendship
With Thy children everywhere."

Sing (or read)—Hymn 58—"It came upon the midnight clear." (Notice especially verses 1, 3, 4.)

Benediction (Father)

"Now may grace, mercy and peace be among us, and among God's people everywhere. Amen." ●

The Story of Christmas

JOSEPH went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to David's town, Bethlehem, in Judaea, because he was a direct descendant of David, to be registered with his future wife, Mary, now in the later stages of her pregnancy. So it happened that it was while they were there in Bethlehem that she came to the end of her time. She gave birth to her first child, a son. And as there was no place for them inside the inn, she wrapped him up and laid him in a manger.

There were some shepherds living in the same part of the country, keeping guard throughout the night over their flock in the open fields. Suddenly an angel of the Lord stood by their side, the splendour of the Lord blazed around them, and they were terror-stricken. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid! Listen, I bring you glorious news of great joy which is for every man. This very day, in David's town, a Saviour has been born for you. He is Christ, the Lord. Let this prove it to you: you will find a baby, wrapped up and lying in a manger."

And in a flash there appeared with the angel a vast host of the armies of Heaven, praising God, saying, "Glory to God in the highest Heaven! Peace upon earth to men whom He loves."

When the angels left them and went back into Heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Now let us go straight to Bethlehem and see this event which the Lord has told us about."

So they came as fast as they could and they found Mary and Joseph—and the baby lying in the manger. And when they had seen it, they told everybody what they had been told about the little child. And those who heard them were amazed at what the shepherds said. But Mary treasured all these things and turned them over in her mind. The shepherds went back to work, glorifying and praising God for everything that they had heard and seen, which had happened just as they had been told.

Not long after his birth there arrived from the east a party of astrologers making for Jerusalem and enquiring as they went, "Where is the child born to be King of the Jews? For we saw his star in the east and we have come here to pay homage to him."

When King Herod heard about this he was deeply perturbed, as indeed were all the other people living in Jerusalem. So he got all the Jewish Scribes and Chief Priests together and asked them where "Christ" should be born. Their reply was: "In Bethlehem, in Judaea, for this is what the prophet wrote about the matter—

"And thou, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
Art in no wise least among the princes of Judah:
For out of thee shall come forth a governor,
Which shall be shepherd of my people Israel."

Then Herod summoned the wise men to meet him privately and questioned them closely as to the exact time when the star appeared. Then he sent them off to Bethlehem saying, "When you get there, search for this little child with the utmost care. And when you have found him come back and tell me—so that I may go and worship him too."

The wise men listened to the King and then went on their way to Bethlehem. And now the star, which they had seen in the east, went in front of them as they travelled until at last it shone immediately above the place where the little child lay. The sight of the star filled them with indescribable joy.

So they went into the house and saw the little child with his mother Mary. And they fell on their knees and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts—gold, incense and myrrh. •

From "The Gospels translated into Modern English" by J. B. Phillips, published by Geoffrey Bles. (Luke 2: 4-19, Matthew 2: 1-10), with permission.

• Crowded by Santa • Expensive Custom

Ad Lib

By J. A. DAVIDSON

WE who are concerned for the "Christianness" of Christmas must be careful lest our concern go sour and smother the great joy of the season. I must say that I am beginning to be a little alarmed by the increasingly extravagant indignation of the people who react so violently against what the world has tried to do to Christmas that they cast a gloom over the season and try to make us feel guilty if we do more than stand around and look uncomfortably pious.

Of course, Christmas has had a bad time of it in our society. The spirit of a rather reckless conviviality has for many replaced the spirit of worship. The season has been grossly commercialized, and the Christ Child has been crowded rather badly by Santa Claus and Rudolph of the red nose. But it does seem to me that Christmas is now a holier time for many people than it was in the not very distant past. The trend seems to be reversing itself a little — and undoubtedly the put-Christ-back-into-Christmas campaign has a good deal to do with that. But we must be careful lest we drive the joy out of Christmas or debilitate it with sentimentality.

Whatever else the Christian makes of Christmas, he must make it the great occasion of joyful thanksgiving, the time when from the depths of his heart he can cry with St. Paul, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." The deepest meanings of Christmas are in thankful remembrance of what God did for mankind when He came into man's history in the person of Jesus Christ. This act of God is the very heart of our religion, the centre and source of our faith.

As Dr. Hanns Lilje, the great German churchman, reminded us a few years ago, "The early Church did not suggest a new religious theory but proclaimed an act of God in history." We often forget that. We often look upon our religion as though it were merely a matter of a moral code and a simple practice of piety. And our matter-of-fact minds often boggle at the great proclamation that God Himself came into man's history for man's salvation in the person of Jesus Christ.

And we do need to be warned that the Christmas Gospel is easily sentimentalized. Perhaps we've tended to make it altogether too "sweet." Of course, the Christmas stories in St. Matthew and St. Luke are very lovely—but we must not allow their loveliness to blind us to their deeper meanings and significances. A gentle, sentimental glow induced by a hearing of the Bethlehem narratives does not always impel us to thank God for his unspeakable gift: we are often thankful merely for the gentle, sentimental glow.

C. E. B. Cranfield, an English New Testament scholar, has warned us, ". . . perhaps one of the worst forms of ingratitude is to be so occupied with thanking God for His innumerable lesser mercies, that we forget to thank Him for His supreme gift." The dominant note of Christmas, whatever the undertones may be, must be that of joyful thanksgiving toward Almighty God for His greatest gift to us, "even Jesus Christ our Lord." If we hold firmly to that the world cannot destroy our Christmas.

Prudence in the Parsonage

By JEAN SHILTON

ON an afternoon in late October I visited the Christmas card section of a large department store. Cards had been on display since mid-September, and by October almost one-third of the total Christmas business had been transacted. The early shoppers were mainly folk who have friends in the far corners of the world, and who must, therefore, mail cards by November at the latest.

The personal greeting card counter was covered with a disarray of albums from various companies, chosen for the store at a spring display in New York. Prices ranged from $1.95 for 40 cards to $32.00 for 25 cards. I took a quick look at this luxury item, an imported silk-screen reproduction of a classical religious painting.

The clerk in charge was definite about the preference of most people, even big-city sophisticates, for conventional Christmas cards. Traditional designs — Santa Claus, sleighs, Christmas trees, carollers—far outsell the stylized, the comic or the racy cards.

Religious cards were moving slowly. Maybe, thought the clerk, about one-fifth of the cards purchased were religious.

My own private research leads me to t conclusion that even among church peop so-called religious cards are not ve popular. Most of the women I talked wi said yes, they usually sent some religio cards (to anyone besides the minister, wondered?) but they didn't sound ve enthusiastic about the matter. A f expressed a dissatisfaction which is, suspect, rather common. "Religious car are too ornate," said one. "Always t same," said another. After looking throu all the albums of religious cards in t department stores I confess that I fou few cards of distinction. They were colou ful and pretty and the printed greetin were restrained and in good taste, but t cards had no real religious meaning. T one exception to this rule was an album cards from the studio of Evelyn Curro, 2 W - 18th Street, New York 11, N.Y., which there were some genuinely movi religious designs.

An average family sends out about o hundred greeting cards, and mother, w usually manages this project, finds it pleasant part of the Christmas preparatio But there are many families whose Chris mas card list has grown to three, four, fi times that size, and there the annu Christmas card ritual is expensive and tim consuming. One minister totalled his ca expenses to $45.00 last year and a doct reckoned that his bill was something li $100.00. Business firms commonly ord 2,000 to 2,500 cards on which, of cours the name of the company appears. Ho much does this national orgy cost? It wou be hard to calculate exactly, but by t time you consider the price of the card plus postage, plus the time of everyone w handles the finished cards from the cle who sells them to the postman who delive them, the figure must be astronomical.

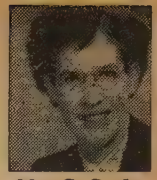
A few reforms in our card habits a probably in order. I can see no very go reason for exchanging cards with neighbou whom we will probably see several tim during the holiday season. A few frien who would agree to express their greetin personally wherever possible could make nice contribution to the Christmas Che fund with what they saved. I can see n very legitimate reason for public figur such as members of Parliament and hea

(*Continued on page* 18)

Rev. J. A. Davidson

Mrs. J. Shilton

Rev. S. Bole


Mrs. G. Carder

• The Closed Door

Caistor Corners

By J. SHERIDAN BOLE

HE was just five years old and the Church Christmas Concert was upon him. Rickey was sitting in joyous expectation on the chair next to the aisle in the third row. Beside him was his playmate, Mervie. For many weeks they had discussed a dozen different problems concerning Santa Claus; most of all his reindeer, their power to climb the air, their matchless speed, their harness and the beautiful bells.

Outside it was below zero, the ground covered deep with powdery snow. But the hall was warm and filled with a radiance compounded of the dim light and the marvel and happiness shining from the children's eyes. It was so full that the only place reflected in the light was the waxed aisle.

The climax of the concert came when there was a shuffling movement at the door. Every eye turned in welcome.

"Listen," called out the chairman.

Then it came, faintly as from a far distance, then louder and clearer — the magic sound of bells. Suddenly there was a loud and merry shout, and the door flew open. With a great stamping of feet a rotund figure rolled into the hall.

Down the aisle came Santa Claus, shouting in every direction, "Merry Christmas, boys and girls." And with a jolly, "Ho! Ho! Ho!" he passed the boys. This was the moment Rickey had been waiting for.

Propelled by his pent-up excitement and his scheme of many days' planning, he grabbed up his cap and, with his overcoat dragging behind him, ran down the aisle, making a dash for the door. No one noticed until he was almost there.

"Where are you going, young fellow?" a man at the door asked, putting out a hand.

Rickey excitedly gasped, "The reindeer! Santa's reindeer. I'm going to see Santa's reindeer!"

But very gently the man patted him on the head, and before Rickey knew what had happened, he was on his way back to his seat beside Mervie. He slithered on to its edge and Mervie, remembering Rickey's daring scheme asked, "Did you see them?"

"No," Rickey answered, "the man wouldn't let me through the door."

"Perhaps they weren't there," Mervie was doubtful.

Rickey looked at him contemptuously. "Silly! they were, too," he said, and because he felt an explanation was needed, declared, "That's why they wouldn't let me through."

He sat very still for he could see them quite clearly now, standing quietly under the bare branches of the tree outside, blowing white puffs from their nostrils, their lovely heads lifted toward the stars, their tiny brown hooves almost hidden by the white snow, and the harness lines hanging in long sloping curves back to the toy-filled cutter. He was a little disappointed that he had not seen them, but then grown-up people don't understand how important such things are. He wasn't going to blame the man at the door.

* * * * *

"Rickey, Rickey!" Wherever you are I'm calling to you across the years. I was the man who stopped you. I wanted to explain that night, but you wouldn't have understood. You were just a little boy with a boy's imagination, but you will be a man now, and you will know that the door is closed so that the glory hidden behind it may remain.

I think it was the same on that night at Bethlehem when the shepherds were frightened by the light in the skies and were bidden to go and see the glory. After a journey across the black hills they came only to a dark, lonely stable with some dumb animals and a stilled mother sitting beside a newborn baby asleep in a rude manger. The glory was behind a closed door and it abides forever. It was the "sign" alone they were allowed to see.

"And they returned glorifying and praising God for the THINGS which they had seen."

Would you have opened the door?

• Teenage Abstainers

Toc Alpha

By GENEVIEVE CARDER

THREE years ago the Ontario Temperance Federation planned an experimental Christmas youth conference. Feeling frustrated by the limited time available to them for presenting the scientific facts about alcohol to high-schoolers, the Federation invited teenagers from a number of Ontario schools to a three-day conference in Toronto's Central YMCA.

When the talks, discussions, field trips, and fun were drawing to a close, Mary Esther Rogers of Napanee impulsively stood up to thank those who had arranged the conference. She said this ought to be just the beginning of special alcohol education projects for teenagers. Spontaneously other delegates supported her suggestion and proposed the election of a skeleton executive from among themselves. So Ontario's Toc Alpha was born.

Toc Alpha is an organization of teenagers who work and plan to encourage others of their own age to abstain from the use of beverage alcohol. Their up-to-the-minute knowledge of the latest scientific research on alcohol can put most of their elders to shame. They work hard to find solutions of their own for the drinking problems that are peculiar to teenagers. In their own gatherings they demonstrate most convincingly how much fun can be derived from alcohol-free recreation.

Toc Alpha's annual Christmas conferences include speakers, panels of teenagers, discussions, and field trips to such centres as the Harbour Light Alcoholic Clinic. Their speakers and discussion leaders are men and women who see life from many different angles — policemen, business executives, politicians, and psychiatrists were on last year's programme. The delegates come from all over the province. Seventy communities, including Port Arthur and Cochrane, were represented. Eighty per cent. of last year's delegates were from moderate drinking homes. And during the months following the conference they gave over 1,000 speeches in their own and neighbouring communities.

Last September the citizens of Kingsville, Ont., and district were called to vote on a five-barrelled proposal for increased liquor outlets in their community. "This will boost local business and pep up our tourist trade," was a slogan that sounded reasonable to many voters, who felt this was a time to be broadminded. But two of Kingsville's teenagers had learned some disturbing facts at the Toc Alpha conference last Christmas.

Their outspoken opinions won the attention and support of 40 other young people in the district. They studied the local

(*Continued on page* 18)

DILEMMA

(*Continued from page* 13)

group working in the white community to bring the races together in a single fellowship of man.

Harold C. Fleming, director of the Southern Regional Council, said in Atlanta that there was no organized force of comparable size doing as much for racial amity and integration as the churches. Potentially, he said, it is a tremendous force, if it can be brought down to the local level.

The big problem in local churches, Mr. Fleming believes is to close the gap between clergy and lay leaders.

New Group of Ministers

"Theological seminaries have been breeding a new group of ministers who see race in a new and progressive way," he said.

"But the laymen haven't been subjected to the new ideas; their frame of reference is traditional customs. Some leading laymen have stretched themselves beyond the traditional patterns—they go to conventions and vote for liberal moves they would never approve of in their own home towns." ●

PRUDENCE

(*Continued from page* 16)

of Churches sending out thousands of cards to people whom they have never met or do not remember. A generous contribution to the missionary budget would serve the spirit of the season more adequately. And finally I should like to see those businesses which greet 2,000 customers on the anniversary of the birth of Christ, consider whether that kind of advertising is legitimate. They might give one or two young people a year at college with the same amount of money.

Having thus dissected a lovely Christmas custom, I must add that I am just as sentimental as you are when it comes to receiving Christmas cards. All of them—the gay, the gaudy, the sober, the plain, the snaps, the letters — are eagerly opened, lovingly admired and proudly displayed. On December first when I contemplate the mammoth task which lies before me I could cheerfully lose that long list of addresses, but on January first when I remember all the warmth of friendships renewed, I give a thousand thanks for that wonderful Christmas custom of exchanging greeting cards.

Christmas Candles

Love is a candle,
Tenderest light,
Folding a dawn
O'er loneliest night.

Love lit a Candle
And earth was given—
At God's great cost—
The Light from heaven.

Ours the warm radiance
Now to impart,
Burning the flame
Of Christ in our heart.

—Doris King

TOC ALPHA

(*Continued from page* 17)

situation, asked opinions of business and professional people, and dug up facts about the effects of increased liquor outlets in other communities. They published their findings and feelings in a news sheet entitled "Youth Speaks." The resulting vote was a resounding NO to four out of the five proposals. Said Mr. Manly Miner of Kingsville, "Our teenagers are to be congratulated for their courage in giving the adults of this community such a wonderful lead."

Membership in Toc Alpha is open to any teenager who applies for it with the intention of helping to further its activities. There are now over a thousand members in Ontario, and other provinces are sending delegates to the Christmas conferences.

A recent application for a Toc Alpha membership card carried this comment, "I have never wanted to drink, but I did not know there were other teenagers who felt the same way. Now I have the courage to stick by my convictions." ●

Homewood

A little boy asked

Whose Birthday Is It?

SEVERAL years ago, at Christmas time, my young son asked me, in much perplexity, "Mommy, whose birthday is it, the little Lord Jesus' or Santa Claus'?"

I replied quickly, "the little Lord Jesus', of course."

"Well," he insisted, "if it's the little Lord Jesus' birthday, how come everybody's talking about Santa Claus all the time?"

A very sensible and logical question for a little three-year-old boy.

After I had tucked him in bed that night I began asking myself the same question, followed by more searching ones. I realized that the conclusion reached by my son was quite justified. After all, he had been literally fed on Santa Claus for weeks, by television, radio and magazines.

Then came the more searching question as to how society had contrived to make Christmas into the most elaborate, sophisticated and expensive affair of the year, when its beginning in a little stable in Bethlehem was the essence of simplicity and humility.

That very next day I went downtown and bought the makings of a Nativity Scene, and with the children's help constructed it right in their bedroom, explaining as we set it, about the Christ Child and his mother surrounded by the lowly beasts of the stable. And about the Wisemen, rulers in their own right, who came to worship the King of Kings. And too, about the shepherds summoned to the lowly stable by a star, from the ancient sentinel-like hills overlooking Bethlehem.

After the "construction job" was completed, my son called his friends in to see the "first Christmas," as he called it. After the children had looked at the Nativity Scene, their voices, when they spoke, were hushed, as if they were afraid of waking the Baby. I realized that, young as they were, they had grasped its significance far better than their parents, because unlike adults, children see with more than their eyes.

If we, their parents could catch just a glimpse of the wonderment of the Nativity, and in so doing remember the words in Isaiah: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace," then never again would a little boy ask, "Whose birthday is it, Mommy?"

—Sonia D. MacRae

SIXTH ANNUAL

EUROPEAN TOUR

July, 1960

Presbyterian Inter-Fellowship Party

Open to all members of The United Church and their Friends.

Leaving Montreal, July 5th

C.P.S. "EMPRESS OF FRANCE"

Visiting: SCOTLAND, ENGLAND, BELGIUM, GERMANY, SWITZERLAND, LICHTENSTEIN, AUSTRIA, ITALY, MONACO and FRANCE.

THE PASSION PLAY, OBERAMMERGAU

Arriving Montreal, August 19th

C.P.S. "EMPRESS OF BRITAIN"

Inclusive Cost $990.00

A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

WILLIAM BROWN, F.S.A.
Travel-Secretary

United Church Manse
Minto, Manitoba, Canada

Makes a man feel ten feet tall! What does? Why, having money in the bank, of course! When you've got a nice pad of savings behind you, you can take advantage of sale prices. And when you spot something you want, you can pay cash for it. Or, if someone in the family gets sick, it's nice to know the money is right there to look after him. The fact is, everything in life looks better when you've got cash in the bank. And it doesn't take long to run up a nice sum when you make small but regular deposits. Yes sir, money in the bank really does give a man that ten-feet tall feeling. Do you know where I save my money?

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

GREETINGS

To all our friends, old and new, we extend warm Christmas wishes and sincere appreciation of your courtesies throughout the year. May 1960 bring you prosperity and happiness.

NATIONAL PAPER GOODS
LIMITED
Hamilton, Ontario
HALIFAX • MONTREAL • TORONTO
WINNIPEG • VANCOUVER

WHEN YOU HAVE READ "THE OBSERVER" PASS YOUR COPY ON TO A FRIEND

STANDARD TUBE AND T. I. LIMITED
WOODSTOCK · HAMILTON
TORONTO · OTTAWA · MONTREAL

Please send me the new Standard Tube Nesting Furniture Catalogue

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
CHURCH.....
TOWN.....PROV.....

To
STANDARD TUBE AND T. I. LIMITED
WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO

J-9155

The Question Box

We welcome queries to this box, and we will try to answer questions briefly. But please be brief. We may take the liberty of re-writing questions and combining several similar questions in one.

Q. If you were planning a Christmas pageant in the church would you invite Santa Claus for a few minutes afterwards or would you bar him from the premises?

A. Please don't quote us, for we have friends who disagree. But we think Santa is a nice old pagan and we always like to see him around the pleasant parties in the church.

Q. Why do so many United Church ministers, many of whom obviously lack the training to be good chairmen, insist on occupying the chair at congregational, annual and other meetings, and use their prestige and authority to dominate such meetings?

A. The *Manual* says: Section 24: "The chairman of a congregational meeting shall be the minister of the pastoral charge or the minister appointed by the presbytery. . . . If a minister is absent or prefers not to preside, the meeting shall appoint its own chairman." The responsibilities of a minister are such that we don't think there is any excuse for him not to be a "good chairman." Some ministers — we think not many — prefer not to act as chairman of their congregational meetings and we know a few congregations where things go very smoothly with a layman in charge. At the same time the tradition of the church is such that most congregations seem to prefer to have their ministers in the chair. They should not dominate such a meeting, but the nature of their office and the respect of the people for them as leaders is such that they often do.

Q. Should members of the Masons hold offices in the United Church?

A. They do. And we don't know why they shouldn't.

Q. My husband is a member of Session of our church. I want to leave it to become a Roman Catholic. Would this affect his standing in the church? Could he be asked to resign? It won't bother our minister—I'm not on his wife's who's who.

A. No, the church would take no action except to issue you your certificate of membership — or remove your name from the roll. Your conversion to Roman Catholicism will not affect your husband's standing. But you'll no doubt be on the parsonage *who's what.*

Q. What is the significance of the water in our baptism?

A. It is a symbol of cleansing.

Q. There is a list of United Church college men—i.e., professors, etc. —contained in the back of the book "Life and Death." Does this mean that they all agree with everything in the book?

A. No. When you read the book, as well as the newspaper stories, you will note at least one place where it clearly states everyone does not agree. However there was essential agreement on a document which deals with many difficult matters. And there would be complete agreement that the book was carefully prepared and deserves careful study.

Q. Is it true that at the time of Union in 1925, the Presbyterian Church entered Union as a church, and that the present Presbyterian Church was formed by those churches which chose to remain outside of union?

A. Yes.

Q. An article in THE OBSERVER *stated that the United Church had a stabilization fund of 3-3/4 million dollars. Is this so? And where does that money come from?*

A. 5 per cent. of the M and M each year goes into the fund. The hope is to build up an amount equal to one year's income, so the church will not have to borrow for current operations and will be able to protect its work against a possible recession.

Q. Why hold the children's hymn until the children are trooping out to Sunday school or junior congregation, and can only enjoy a verse or two?

A. We suppose so that the noise and confusion of their departure may be covered up by the congregational singing, and peace and quiet may reign when the hymn is ended.

By EDWARD CRAGG

The Season of Expectation

T becomes increasingly evident that if Christmas is to be saved as a Christian feast, the meaning of Advent must be ified, and set over against the activities he hucksters who now bid fair to claim season as their own.

Last year a Canadian daily published a er with the caption, TIME TO ABOL- H CHRISTMAS. This was followed by second, headed, In DEFENSE OF RISTMAS. However, the defense was unimpressive as the attack; both writers ed to reveal any understanding of what vent really stands for, and why Chris- ns believe that this season speaks to the pest needs and hopes of the human rt. We still believe this, in spite of tawdry commercialization to which ristmas has been subjected.

What then is the true meaning of Advent? his book, *The Good Shepherd*, Gunnar nnarson finds an answer in the experience Benedikt, a farmhand in Iceland.

On the first Sunday in Advent Benedikt uld always pack food in a knapsack, and e the way to the mountains, to seek for few scattered sheep that had not been nd at the autumn ingathering. His aim s simple; to find them and gather them e and sound under shelter before the at festival should spread its benediction er the earth.

Climbing upward through the snow, nedikt felt that the mountain scene was ed with unbelievable promise. For it was lvent—Advent.

"Benedikt took the word in his mouth guardedly, that great, quiet, strange word. It is true he did not know precisely what it meant, but there was an expectation in it, a getting ready, that he felt. In the course of years this word had come to contain for him almost the entire meaning of his life. . . What was the life of men on earth anyhow, except a service, imperfect, never to be finished, upheld, nevertheless, and justified by expectation and preparation?"

For us, too, the full meaning of Advent lies beyond our present grasp, on mountain tops of unattained spiritual experience; but this at least is certain, that each year it ought to remind us that at a particular time in history God sent his Son to be the Good Shepherd of the souls of men. In Bethlehem of Judaea, in the days of Herod the king, God set out on a difficult and costly effort to seek and to save the lost.

As a result the spirit of expectation, which Benedikt sensed as he embarked on his mission of mercy through the snow drifts of the mountains, becomes the keynote not only of Advent, but of every day of a Christian's life.

Every day we ought to repeat the prayer of the ancient Latin hymn,

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel.

And every day the confident response proclaims Good News from God,

Rejoice, rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

THE MUSIC MAKERS' CORNER

Christmas Eve

is Christmas eve, so let us go
here sleigh-bells ring across the snow,
d echo o'er the wintry scene
ong the road to Hazeldene:
at home of love and right goodwill
hich nestles by the pine-clad hill,
here Lloyd and Trixie share with joy
eir home with every girl and boy;
here Music Makers' voices ring
ith Christmas songs they love to sing.

hen winter's sun has gone to rest
hind the saffron-curtained west,
m Davies' team of dappled grey
mes o'er the hill with gaudy sleigh
call for eager girls and boys
vaiting him at Hazeldene.

Then Skip and Dora take the hill
With many a curve and many a thrill;
Above them shines the silv'ry moon
That rides the sky, and very soon
Those stars which fleecy clouds obscure
Will shed their softer beams so pure
On cottage homes both far and near,
Which now are filled with Christmas cheer.

As once the guiding star serene
Led wise men to the manger scene,
So may that radiant star tonight
Lead us to Christ our joy and light.

Fred. J. Howard

A Merry Christmas to all our Music Makers.

Celtic Studios

DESIGNERS, PAINTERS AND CRAFTSMEN IN STAINED GLASS

SWANSEA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE
MRS. EASON HUMPHREYS
33 DONINO AVE., TORONTO 12, ONT. HU. 9-6566
QUE: W. D. LAMBIE, O.B.E., P.O. BOX 621, STATION B, MONTREAL

A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

PEERLESS CARBON & RIBBON COMPANY LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE
100 Industry St., Toronto 15
RO. 6-2305

Branches
Montreal • Winnipeg • Vancouver

ESTABLISHED 1905 WG & CO. LTD. Investments

To Keep a Record of Your Investments

Our "*Investment Record*" is a handy way to keep a continuing record of investments. Columns are provided for the name of the security, a description of it, the date bought, the price paid and the monthly and yearly income.

A copy of this *Investment Record* will be sent upon request.

Wood, Gundy & Company
Limited

Toronto Montreal Winnipeg Vancouver
Halifax Quebec London Hamilton
Ottawa Kitchener Regina
Edmonton Calgary Victoria
London, Eng. New York

Write

LePAGE INDIVIDUAL COMMUNION CUP CO.

84 Hallam Street • • TORONTO

Give The Upper Room for Christmas!

Special Offer

Here is the perfect Christmas gift for everyone on your list, especially for those individuals or families who "have everything": *a gift subscription to The Upper Room.*

Containing devotionals with a meditation, Bible reading and prayer for every day in the new year, The Upper Room will be a daily reminder of the giver's thoughtfulness.

Under the special Christmas rate, you save one-third by ordering three or more yearly subscriptions at one time — three subscriptions for $2.00, six for $4.00, etc. Send payment with order.

Attractive gift announcement folders will be sent free in your name. (Be sure to show how the folders are to be signed.) Send your order TODAY to

The Upper Room

The world's most widely used devotional guide

1908 GRAND AVE. NASHVILLE 5, TENN.

Book Reviews

Conducted by M. MACDONALD

The Chatterbox

AFTER reading and agreeing with our Ad Lib columnist's statement on the "theological undergirding" of Hugh MacLennan's *The Watch That Ends The Night,* we picked up *The British Weekly* to read *Ilico* (The Rev. Nathaniel Micklem). He was re-reading Rose Macaulay's *The Towers of Trebizond* and wrote, ". . . thinking that novelists when they know anything about religion (which is not very often) make far better theologians than the professionals, because the professionals are always dealing with abstract ideas, and the novelists with real people." . . . T. S. Eliot was a great success when he read his poems recently to an overflow audience in Chicago's Orchestra Hall. He interspersed his reading with gentle remarks and poked fun at the commentators. "There is not much need for me to talk," he said, "more and more people know more about my poetry than I do." He opened the programme with "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," his first published poem in the little Chicago magazine *Poetry,* which has given a start to so many foremost English and American poets. . . We've brought out *The Wind in the Willows* for its annual Christmas reading (and we wish we hadn't read the new biography of Kenneth Grahame—it's disillusioning) . . . A Happy Christmas and much good reading to all.

Two Arctic Tales

Reviewed by A. J. Wilson.

The Desperate People

By Farley Mowat. (Little-Brown, $5.00).

Deprived of their means of livelihood by the ruthless destruction by the white man of the caribou and fur-bearing animals, the Canadian Eskimo was on the way to extinction. The tragic story is told by Farley Mowat, who for a time lived among the Ihalmiut. From a tribe of several thousand they were reduced to about a hundred, lived in unheated tents, ate their dogs and their deer hide clothing. Some committed suicide, some went berserk. Repeated requests to Ottawa went unheeded. Finally word of their plight got to the outside. The government was forced to action, built a rehabilitation centre at Rankin Inlet, fed and clothed them. Soon the younger men were given work by the management of the North Rankin Inlet Nickel mine, and paid real wages. In less than a year they were doing intricate mine operations. They now live in modern houses, are warm and well fed. The author, whose former book did much to arouse public opinion, suggests an extension of the rehabilitation policy until all the Eskimos are given the opportunity to make their own living in new areas of service. The book is written with great feeling in vibrant, stirring language that moves the heart of the reader.

The very fine woodcuts at the chapter heads serve to lighten the sombre prose. In them Rosemary Kilbourn has caught the spirit and the rhythm of the Arctic and its people.

Wonders of the Arctic

By Jacquelyn Berrill. (Dodd, Mead, $3.50).

Wonders of the Arctic reveals the mystery of life in the great north, by tracing in understandable language, the life cycles of the animals and birds that make their home there, caribou, polar bear, walrus, fox, lemming, seal and others. There is a bit about Arctic exploration, reference to the under-ice trip of the submarine **Nautilus** and regular air trips over the poles. This is a small, attractively printed and illustrated book packed with accurate and interesting information.

Add these to the growing list of books on this region.

Christmas in Canada

By Mary Barber and Flora McPherson (J. M. Dent, $4.00.)

This is the book we've been looking for to carry to New Zealand friends the real flavour of Christmas in Canada. It has four parts: the early days; from sea to sea; spirit of Christmas past; and spirit of Christmas present. Reading, we are in company with the Jesuits of old, Samuel Hearne, Catherine Parr Traill; the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava; Nellie McClung; Stephen Leacock; James Bannerman, Hugh MacLennan, Gregory Clark and E. P. Nichol. There is something for every taste.

A common interest in history, particularly social history, drew the authors together. Both are University of Western Ontario graduates. They were fascinated by the way old traditions merge in a new country, and **Christmas in Canada** is the result of their research.

The line drawings with which each section is introduced add charm and set the atmosphere.

Christmas, an American Annual of Literature and Art

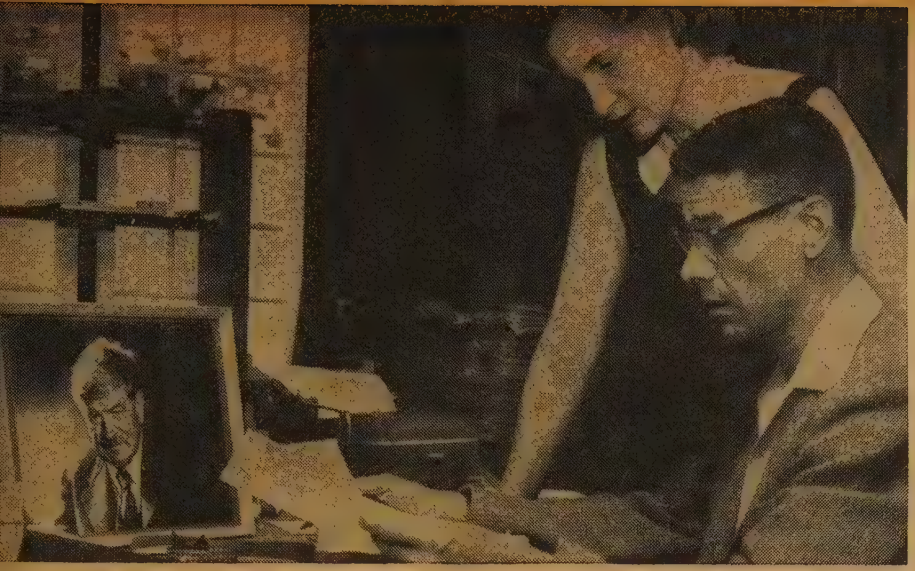
(Augsburg, $1.50.)

The frontispiece of this, the 29th edition of the Christmas Annual is a winter scene on President Eisenhower's Gettysburg farm. The story of the birth of the Christ child from St. Luke and St. Matthew, dominates the volume, decorated in traditional colour by artist Sada Jones. Editor Randolph E. Haugan has included articles and stories with the Christmas theme, and uses one on Oberammergau's woodcarving gift to the world. A number of Christmas songs and carols, some old and some new are included, among them the Middleton translation of Breboeuf's Huron Christmas carol, Jesous Ahatonhia, which first appeared in **The New Outlook,** the **Observer's** predecessor. Illustrations and photographs for the Christmas season give colour and added interest to the contents.

Kitchen Communion

By Cornelia M. Renfroe. (John Knox $1.50.)

In most attractive format, on its cover a scattering of kitchen utensils, this little book comes to housewives who sometimes find



Author Ralph L. Curry and his wife in the Stephen Leacock Memorial Home, Orillia, Ont.

ıe daily round, the common task" a bit ɛarisome. There are suggested Scripture ssages, little poems and meditations to ep the mind occupied while the hands ork, and to calm a troubled spirit.

amily Gathering

By Kathleen Norris. (Doubleday, $5.00).

Kathleen Norris, whose name was miliar, particularly to the feminine world the earlier decades of this century, has w written her Memoirs. One of six ildren growing up in San Francisco, she und her forte in a newspaper office where e edited the women's page. She met and arried Charles Norris, later to become a ell known writer, also. They moved to ew York and knew all the important iters and actors of the day—Irvin Cobb, arles Towne, Lawrence Tibbett, Noel ward, Edna Ferber, Neysa McMein, the blishers John Murray and the Doubledays, e Lunts, Alex Woolcott, Harpo Marx, ary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks. athleen's sister Theresa married William se Benét, and that family of poets and eir children are added to her own and e children and children's children of her others and sisters in the Norris family thering.

Mrs. Norris was a phenomenal success a writer. She produced two novels nually for 25 years, as well as short stories d newspaper articles. Her work appeared many well known periodicals such as **The lantic Monthly** and **Colliers,** and her vels were serialized in all the large men's magazines.

This book shows that Kathleen Norris has t lost her skill as a writer. Of course the ok will be most interesting to her conporaries, particularly those interested in e literature and the theatre of the 10's, 's and 30's.

ephen Leacock

By Ralph L. Curry. (Doubleday, $4.95.)

Reviewed by A. J. Wilson.

It is 14 years since the death of Stephen acock, a sufficiently long period from hich to view his life and work in proper rspective. This has been done by Ralph Curry, a director of the Stephen Leacock emorial Home in Orillia, Ont. Professor rry has done well with one of Canada's st paradoxical figures — a professor in economics at McGill University for 35 years and a warmhearted humourist. It is as a humourist he will be remembered; he was Canada's greatest. Throughout the English-speaking world his books have been read and chuckled over by thousands of readers. Professor Curry traces the life of Leacock from his home in England, early years on an Ontario farm, through school and college to his life's work at McGill. The biography is illustrated with many quotations, and by stories and incidents collected from people who knew Leacock intimately. The author ferrets out the qualities of Leacock's humour that make it popular and enduring, analyses his technique, and compares his work with that of Mark Twain and other noted humourists. This is by far the best thing that has been done on the great Canadian author. It will no doubt be accepted as the standard by which future studies will have to be measured.

The High Roof

By Joy Packer. (McClelland & Stewart, $3.50).

This is the story of two marriages; that of Kirsten and Mike, young, inexperienced and very much in love, and the second marriage of Terry, Kirsten's mother, to Pierre Delaporte, 12 years her junior. There is a Chinese proverb that says there's nothing more amusing than to see your friend fall from a high roof. "Marriage," says Terry to her daughter, "any marriage is a 'high roof' and mine is very high and slippery, indeed."

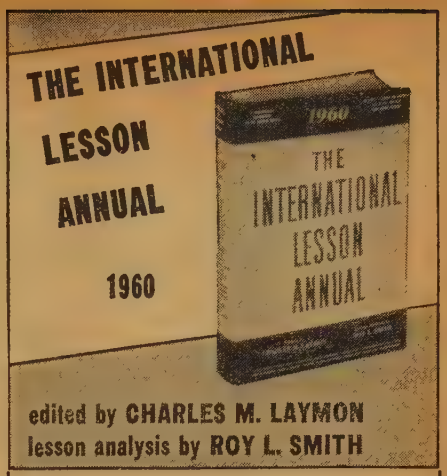
The setting is South Africa, home of the author, with its social and racial distinctions. While racial antagonism is evident and brings argument, it is not important to the plot. As the story unfolds, problems and difficulties emerge, and the steepness and slipperiness of the high roof are accentuated. While the characterization, particularly of the men, is good, the reader never quite becomes a part of what he reads; he remains an onlooker.

The Cheerful Heart

By Elizabeth Janet Gray. (Macmillan, $3.25).

"We're going home! we're going home!" 11-year-old Tomi Tamaki sang to herself as the family, after years away from war-torn

(*Over*)



The International Lesson Annual for 1960 offers the best in scholarly interpretation to every student and teacher of the International Sunday School Lessons. Also included are teaching suggestions, lists of audio-visual aids, maps and line drawings, and a **subject index.**

$2.95

Order from your bookstore today

ABINGDON PRESS

Publisher of THE INTERPRETER'S BIBLE

PICTORIAL PLATES

custom decorated, featuring an etching-like reproduction of your Church, Hospital, School, etc., in handsome ceramic color fired into the glaze of these gold edge lined plates. These make cherished mementos of your favorite building. For special committees, projects or occasions they offer an ideal solution. Wholesale prices. Organizations only.

Write today for particulars

CANADIAN ART CHINA

Box 261, Collingwood, Ont.

ARTISTS IN STAINED GLASS SINCE 1856
ROBERT McCAUSLAND LTD.
214 JOHN STREET TORONTO
CANADA'S FOREMOST MEMORIAL WINDOW STUDIOS
SPECIAL DESIGNS AND PRICES ON RECEIPT OF PARTICULARS

BUSY

Investors often are too busy or lack facilities to maintain unbiased research and analysis. It is not surprising, therefore, that many individuals, societies, corporations and trusts ask us to keep watch over their securities.

The experience we have gained in the selection of sound securities since 1901 is available to you. You are invited to consult with us in confidence and without obligation.

Orders accepted for execution on all stock exchanges.

DOMINION SECURITIES CORPN. LIMITED

Established 1901

Toronto Montreal Vancouver New York London, Eng.

Status Unsought

Status seeking ranks as the chief end of modern man. All that a man has he will give for status. Without status any institution rates as nothing.

But to a chosen few status comes unsought. By their very nature and devotedness, men and companies acquire an enviable and unshakeable position in the esteem of their fellowmen.

The P.M.F. enjoys that favorable position. As it begins its Third Century of devoted service, it looks backward proudly but surveys the future with keen anticipation.

Protestant Ministers have conferred high status on the Fund. As it seeks only to serve, the Fund receives unsought status. Find out why by writing to

PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS' FUND

212 Bloor Building — 57 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ontario

Alexander Mackie, *President*

16 BRANCHES — COAST TO COAST — TEXAS TO ONTARIO

Tokyo were coming back. Their own hon had been destroyed and they were returni to a small house. But it didn't matter; th would all be together. They were luc people. The story centres around Tomi the cheerful heart. The reader goes wi her through the days and enters into life a little Japanese girl lives it, with duties a difficulties, customs and traditions, joys a disappointments.

This is a story any 11-12-year-old Canadi girl would like very much. The author, w writes with skill and ease, and with t beauty and dignity becoming to the Japanes is an American woman who lived in th country for a number of years. She is w known on this continent as Mrs. Morg Vining, for a time English tutor to Crow Prince Akihito of Japan, his sisters a younger brother. Recently she was the on foreign guest at the wedding ceremony the Crown Prince and Miss Michiko Shod **The Cheerful Heart,** the ninth book by t same author, is beautifully illustrated Kazue Mizumura.

Two Children's Books

Reviewed by Jean Shilton.

Bhombal Dass

By Ashraf Siddiqui. (Brett - Macmilla $2.75.)

A Pakistani version of the well-know folk tale theme—weak but clever animal us his wit to defeat the strong animal. T print is large, the language is simple, t story is humourous and the illustrations (Tom Hamil) are uncluttered and amusin Ages 4 to 8.

Trick or Treat

By Louis Slobodkin. (Brett - Macmilla $2.75.)

This book came into our home the we before Hallowe'en, and David (3), Carol (5) and Paul (7) pored over it alone a together and chose it to be read to the night after night. It combines the famili with just the right amount of mystery fascinate my bed-time-story brood.

Dr. Arnup Reviews

Three for the Boys

Dale of the Mounted: Atomic Plo

By Joe Holliday. (Thomas Allen, $1.50

This is another in the well-known seri about alleged exploits of the most famo police force in the world, and it is the be I have read so far. The hero, Constab Dale Thompson, is assigned to protect scientist from Pakistan who has come study Canada's atomic installations at Dee River and nearby Chalk River. Thr attempts are made upon his life but all a foiled by Constable Thompson. Considerab alleged information is disclosed about t working of atomic plants.

A good Christmas gift for a boy of t to twelve years.

Jet Pilot Overseas

By Henry B. Lent. (Brett - MacMilla $3.00).

Nancy (15) not only pronounced this good book; she clinched her verdict b begging my copy to put alongside **Jet Pilo** which she acquired after I reviewed it la year. The present volume is a sequel a follows up the training of Lieut. Dick Mart

n accounts of his exploits in Spain and boli. Mr. Lent received extraordinary operation from the U.S.A.F. in the way access to their life and records, and he made good use of what he saw. The k is profusely illustrated. My only regret nat it is not Canadian.

e Nine Questions

By Edward Fenton. (Doubleday Publishrs, $3.50).

read this book through at one sitting. w could I lay it down when it marched ng like this: "And so off Willie strode the midsummer morning, the long ther bag flapping over his shoulder, the ter's cap set gallantly on his head, the er whistle dangling from his neck, the nd timepiece ticking away in his leftd pocket, and the worn gold coin tied a corner of his clean handkerchief." ery one of those properties possessed a gical quality and their powers carried llie and his girl friend triumphantly ough impossible situations to their final l. For this is a fairy-adventure story itten to interest all young people under hty. And what are the Nine Questions? e answer is in the book!

Three for the Girls

ie Pink Motel

By Carol Ryrie Brink. (Brett-MacMillan, $2.75).

ie Pink Dress

By Anne Alexander. (Doubleday, $3.00).

As the colour in their titles implies, these e two books for girls. Perhaps it would be more accurate to describe the first as a book for children. The central figures are Kirby, a boy of ten, and his younger sister. Their parents inherit a pink motel in Florida and move all the way from Minnesota to take possession. A suitable mystery develops and the children, together with two little playmates, are all involved. Finally, Kirby solves the riddle, to everyone's satisfaction. A charming story, with a nice balance between imagination and reality. Delightfully illustrated by Sheila Greenwald.

As to the second book, **The Pink Dress,** Nancy (15) called it a good book for students of the Junior High. It certainly centres on that group. Their lives and loves, their impatience with parents who fail to "dig" them, their rock 'n roll orgies, their cruelty to those who "chicken" at their vandalism for reasons of honour—all are vividly portrayed. Fortunately, the heroine and her boy friend come through unbesmirched, though even here the course of puppy love does not run smooth. A book to be read breathlessly by students of the Junior High.

The Real Book About Canada

By Lyn Harrington. (Doubleday, $1.95).

It sketches the geography and development of Canada from Newfoundland to the Yukon. I noticed only one mistake. It says that the Territory of Assiniboia became the Province of Manitoba. I was living in Assiniboia at the time (1905) it was merged into the Province of Saskatchewan. A small slip in a very valuable book.

---

eorge Frederic Handel

The Man Who Wrote "Messiah"

By FRED J. HORWOOD

TWO hundred years ago George Frederic Handel was buried in Westminster bbey. He had played before kings and itten music for national festivals, crowng of monarchs and the last rites for aders of church and state.

Handel was born in Halle, Saxony, the me year as Bach, and studied with ganist Zachau at seven. He became thedral organist in his early teens, learned speak four languages and to play five struments. He started his operatic career Hamburg and continued it successfully Italy.

He spent two thirds of his long life in ndon and became a British subject, was usic master to Queen Anne and the first o Georges. He attempted to establish alian opera, but was defeated twice by al opera companies, resulting in bankptcy and loss of health. The latter was ickly restored by visits to the mineral ths.

Handel could not be permanently defeated he turned his attention to the writing oratorios, more than twenty in all. The *essiah* is the best known of all his sacred rks. He wrote the score of it (260 folio pages) in 23 days, and gave the first performance in Dublin with a chorus of 20, four soloists, a small orchestra and an organ, and donated the proceeds to charity. He also gave considerable money and an organ to the Foundling Hospital in London, for he was always fond of children.

For many years he lived in Brook Street near the Strand in London; his portly figure in a crimson tunic could be seen ambling along on his way to Hanover Square rooms, where many of his works were first performed. He was a Christian gentleman, beloved by everyone. He never married. He had many virtues, and it is often said that his only vice was over-eating. During his lifetime he wrote enough music to fill 100 large volumes.

Today tiny fingers tinkle away at his harpsichord music on the piano, singers revel in his elaborate arias in a comfortable range, organists play his concertos, and choirs sing excerpts from his oratorios. Wherever his music is heard, there is something about those convincing cadences and masterly climaxes that lifts listeners and performers alike into a state of exaltation. Beethoven said of him "He was the greatest of us all. I would uncover my head and kneel before his tomb." ●

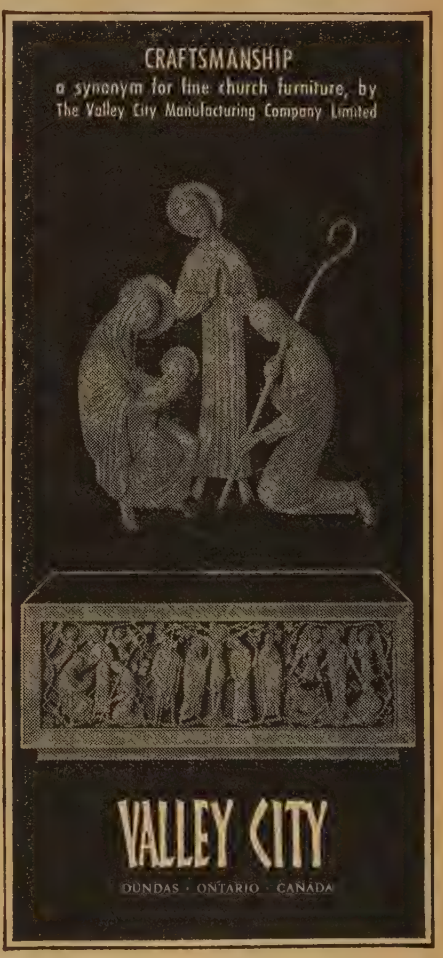
Season's Greetings

Hilroy

ENVELOPES & STATIONERY LIMITED
Manufacturers of Bouvier Envelopes
250 BOWIE AVENUE • TORONTO 10

Service - Quality - Experience

CHOIR GOWNS
PULPIT GOWNS
Samples and Prices upon Request
WALTER & SON, 174 Lauder Ave., Toronto, Ont.
LE. 3-1062 — Res. BE. 3-8837 — Dept. A


CRAFTSMANSHIP
a synonym for fine church furniture, by
The Valley City Manufacturing Company Limited
VALLEY CITY
DUNDAS · ONTARIO · CANADA

Books reviewed in these columns may be purchased from The United Church Publishing House.

EVERY SIZE
THE POSTMAN CARRIES!

GLOBE ENVELOPES

MONTREAL - TORONTO - VANCOUVER
OTTAWA - WINNIPEG

When is a Right a DUTY?

Today everyone enjoys as his birthright, privileges which once were the possession of only a few. But his birthright also includes responsibilities with respect to the privileges he enjoys.

Education is one of the privileges which carry responsibilities. All of us have the responsibility, for example, of helping to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to complete his education, and of seeing that the quality of instruction at our schools and colleges is maintained at a high level.

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada is preparing, for free distribution, a series of booklets on educational matters of importance. These booklets, issued as a public service, discuss problems in which all of us share responsibility. Inquiries about this series should be addressed to: VALUES IN EDUCATION, SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA, SUN LIFE BUILDING, MONTREAL.

About People and Places

Northern U. Developing

Over 400 people from the six northern Ontario presbyteries gathered for a dinner meeting in Sudbury and enthusiastically launched a Wells campaign programme of consolidated appeals, which includes the northern university development. Early returns from 12 large congregations indicate that over half a million dollars has already been promised for that project. These included St. Andrew's, Sudbury, $175,000; Copper Cliff, $75,000; Noranda - Rouyn, $45,000 and a number of $10,000 pledges.

In the lively discussion, keen interest was shown in the development of northern Ontario as a church unit and a university centre.

Wedding Bells in Korea

The wedding took place in Seoul, Korea, on Saturday, October 17, of the **Rev. E. D. Baker** of the Canadian Mission in Korea and **Miss Susan K. Argo,** who arrived recently from the U.S. They will make their home in Iri City.

Don't look at the files

A man should be known by the wear on his knees rather than by the quality of his files, the **Rev. Dr. George Johnston** said when installed as principal of United Theological College, Montreal. In addressing the installation service, he emphasized the need for a well-trained and well-educated ministry.

The service was held in Erskine and American United Church, with Montreal Presbytery Chairman the Rev. D. M. Grant presiding. McGill University Principal Dr. Cyril James attended with a number of representatives from the Faculty of Divinity. Queen's and Emmanuel Theological College principals, Dr. Elias Andrews and Dr. Kenneth Cousland, were present, as well as Dr. Henry F. Hall, principal of Sir George Williams College.

The Rev. Dr. Harold Vaughan, acting secretary of the Board of Colleges and Secondary Schools, preached the sermon.

Learn About Canada

Three Lutheran pastors from Europe now touring the United States, asked to attend a Canadian church service and to meet minister and people. The Rev. Dr. Houick Tvarso, Stockholm, Sweden, the Rev. Dr. H. H. Ulrich, Stuttgart, Germany, and the Rev. Henry Ditz, Cardiff, Wales, asked many questions in conversation with the minister of Kitchener St. United Church, Niagara Falls, the Rev. R. C. Todd, and an elder, Mr. Jan Julavka, a former Czech Roman Catholic. They were interested in the sermon on home and overseas work; also in United Church ritual, doctrine, polity, mission, evangelism and Christian educatio They wanted to know how a church cou use a gymnasium, and were intrigued t the robes of the minister and choir. The took away with them United Church liter ture and Christian education materials; al a copy of "Life and Death."

Moderator meets old friends

Over 1,300 guests were greeted by th Moderator, the **Rt. Rev. Angus J. MacQuee** at a reception in **Centenary-Queen's Squa United Church,** Saint John, N.B., during H recent visit to the Maritimes. He was assiste by Presbytery Chairman, the Rev. Ro Hamilton, and the church's minister, th Rev. Walter G. Davis. The Rev. D. MacKenzie recalled college days and th moderator's class of 1935, the largest Pine Hill history and high in leadersh material.

M and M Still Climbing

At November 25th, there was a 9.2 pe cent. increase in Missionary and Maintenanc givings, the Rev. H. E. D. Ashford report The total is $4,555,542, against $4,171,73 in 1958. Givings by conferences, with 195 figures in brackets, are:

Newfoundland, $48,417 ($46,726); Man times, $374,013 ($332,662); Montreal an Ottawa, $450,967 ($417,751); Bay of Quint $365,322 ($318,179); Toronto, $912,84 ($881,972); Hamilton, $694,839 ($635,786 London, $542,208 ($485,725); Manitob $268,961 ($245,815); Saskatchewan, $253,48 ($229,512); Alberta, $299,257 ($266,111 British Columbia, $305,141 ($278,414 Donations, $40,086 ($33,078).

Building in the North

Two church halls in Northern Ontari were dedicated last month by Toronto Con ference President, the Rev. J. A. C. Kell.

The congregation entered the new hall o the **Cobalt United Church** following th church service conducted by the ministe the Rev. H. L. Wipprecht, and the cuttin of the ribbon by 11-year-old Douglas Slagh The building provides a Sunday school audi torium, kitchen, choir and washrooms.

A service of dedication took place in th new church hall of **Chalmers United Church South River.** It was conducted by the min ister, the Rev. Roy Irwin, and President Kel was assisted by North Bay Presbytery chair man, the Rev. Peter Faris. This is the firs unit of a new church building programme.

Australia on disarmament

Thirty Australian churches are giving th lead in setting up church-sponsored public

The Queen's Christmas Message

On Christmas Day, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth will make her first appearance on Canadian television since her tour of the country last summer. Her annual Christmas message to the Commonwealth will be broadcast over the CBC's radio and television network between 10-10.05 am, EST. She will broadcast from Sandringham.

iferences, lectures and discussions on armament. These are designed to help engthen church leadership in the peace vement and to offset Australian and New aland peace and disarmament conferences d in November which were denounced by ting Minister for External Affairs Sir rfield Borwick, as a tool of Communist opaganda.

aving Church Headquarters

The **Rev. H. E. D. Ashford,** secretary of Missionary and Maintenance Depart-nt, has accepted a call to Dominion urch, Ottawa, to become effective March 1960. When first appointed to the M and post, Dr. Ashford announced he intended return to the pastorate after four or five ars. When he tendered his resignation a ar ago, the sub-executive persuaded him remain longer.

r. Bates Meets Emperor

A half-hour interview with the Emperor, o greatly impressed him, is one of the ghlights of the Japan visit from which **. C. J. L. Bates** has just returned. He ought with him an honorary LLD degree om Kwansei Gakuin, the university he rved for many years.

"Having Dr. Bates here for the 100th niversary celebrations," writes the Rev. D. Clugston, "gave the occasion a personal te and a focus it would not have had herwise. He was in wonderful spirits d very happy about the whole visit. His emory for people was astonishing. He cognized hundreds of friends, called them name, and remembered their families. d his language ability surprised everybody. e spoke to a couple of thousand students d to the whole Kyodan celebration gather-g of about 10,000 people with absolutely warning."

akville gets started

The second phase in the Christian educa-n building project of **St. Paul's United urch, Oakville, Ont.,** got under way last nth when the sod was turned by Home issions Superintendent the Rev. Harold iley. The brief afternoon service was con-cted by the minister, the Rev. G. D. Watt, th presbytery and neighbouring churches presented.

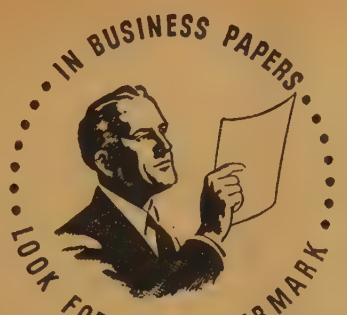
elp for Missions

The **Rev. W. H. H. Norman,** on furlough om Japan where he is a member of the ff of Kwansei Gakuin, is presently serving acting assistant secretary of the Board Overseas Missions.

Years in Windsor Church

The **Rev. Henry Mick** died in Windsor, nt., Nov. 14, following a lengthy illness. rn in Ontario, he was ordained in 1912 d served in Montreal and Ottawa Confer-ce charges until called to Central Church, indsor, in 1934, where he remained until tirement in 1953. . . The **Rev. Carman E. yer,** for 21 years minister of Century nited Church, New Toronto, and Toronto nference secretary for 12 years, died ovember 23. He was 68. A graduate of nox College, Toronto, he served in five ntral Ontario charges before going to entury in 1938. . . The **Rev. Alexander kes,** Lansdowne, Ont., died November 15. dained in 1913, he held pastorates in the ontreal and Ottawa conference, retiring in 52. . . The **Rev. Alfred Yeoman,** Tillson-rg, Ont., died November 17. He came

(*Over*)



The name "Howard Smith" in a watermark is your guarantee of quality.

Makers in Canada of High Grade Papers

Howard Smith Paper Mills Limited

TORONTO • MONTREAL • WINNIPEG • VANCOUVER

Purchasers and Distributors of Government, Municipal and Corporation Securities

•

A. E. Ames & Co.

Limited

Business Established 1889

TORONTO MONTREAL NEW YORK LONDON, ENG. VANCOUVER
VICTORIA WINNIPEG CALGARY LONDON HAMILTON OTTAWA
KITCHENER ST. CATHARINES OWEN SOUND QUEBEC
BOSTON, MASS.

Summer School of Graduate Studies
JUNE 30th TO AUGUST 13th, 1960
AT
Union College of British Columbia

Visiting Lecturer
DR. OTTO A. PIPER
Professor of New Testament Literature and Exegesis
PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

- Two three-week terms.
- Limited accommodation for families.
- For further information write

Union College of B.C. Vancouver 8, B.C.

FLY TCA

across all Canada
serving over 40 communities, coast to coast.

to the United States
New York, Boston, Chicago, Detroit/Windsor, Cleveland and Seattle.

to Britain and Europe
London, Glasgow, Shannon, Paris, Brussels, Dusseldorf, Zurich and Vienna.

to the South
Florida, Bermuda, Nassau, Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados and Trinidad.

SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR TCA OFFICE

TCA

from the Newark Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1913 and served a number of Hamilton Conference charges. He retired in 1948. . . The **Rev. R. G. Fry,** Loughall, Armagh, Northern Ireland, died October 25. He was ordained in 1922 and served Amherst Island, Stella, Packham, before going to Ireland in 1934. He retired from the active ministry in 1950.

New Life in Austria, Brazil

When the first fresh snow sprinkled the nearby mountains, 78 people in 28 families moved from the worn, wooden huts of Camp Parsh to the new block of World Council of Churches apartments in Salzburg, Austria.

Baden Hickman, World Refugee Year reporter, writes of the huge united attempt being made in Austria to rehabilitate thousands of refugees. "It is in the sweat and sorrow of this setting," he says, "that the World Council of Churches is to be found."

"Housing With Care" the scheme is called, and as the families move and the old barracks come down, the World Council provides a programme which lists such things as housecraft and hygiene. House pride has to be restored to the families used now to living in one room.

Another apartment block is being built in the Salzburg centre, and it will become the long-awaited home of another 80 hard-core refugees. These are the old and the handicapped rejects for whom other nations have said there is no room. They must be integrated into the land of their asylum.

England's Arthur Foster is in charge of the Austrian programme, and he insists that to live in the apartments a man must work to pay the rent. This, too, comes under the World Council of Churches. Projects include a refugee furniture factory in Upper Austria and a galvanizing plant in Salzburg Province.

While this programme is under way in Austria, another is flourishing in Brazil.

Under World Council of Churches auspices, 530 Old Believers, members of a Russian Orthodox agriculturist group, were brought from exile in China, via Hong Kong to South America. These 85 families have been settled on 6,000 acres of well-watered prairie type land, with some forest, centrally located in the state of Parana, Brazil. At their own request, they have been established in three villages, a mile and a half apart.

The World Council put a Dutch agricultural expert in charge. Under his leadership, with rented tractors and drivers, the work was begun, and the men trained to use the machines. Two tractors bought have no been increased to four, and each group ha a pair of horses and a cart.

The borders of the roads, the only erode part, have been planted with acacia tree which in six to seven years will yield a cas return, as the bark is used for tannin purposes.

Every family has a house, barn, cow, hen sheep and a pig or two, on the 50 acres t which each will soon hold title, with a additional six acres for kitchen garden Buckwheat is a large crop, and from th 1,500 acres planted to rice, the farme expect to earn $29,000. One thousand thriv ing beehives are well established in th villages.

There is outside work available, too, an 100 of the young men are earning mone A school has been provided and thre Brazilian teachers will take over as soon a the children can be spared from work.

Dr. Edgar H. Chandler, director of th World Council Service to Refugees, wh visited the area recently, was delighted wit the progress. He quotes a Brazilian offici as saying, "In the history of Brazil no ne land settlement is known as ever havin achieved so much in so short a time."

These two projects, among many bein carried out by the World Council o Churches during World Refugee Year, an supported by contributions from The Unite Church of Canada and other churches.

ADVENT

He knew no god but mind,
man's mind on making bent.
He strained to slash ahead,
to make for all a rent
In the soft stifling mist
of nothing, drifting round,
To open up a sky
with light and bearing found.

Love-warm, the sun beat down
into the swirling gray;
The joyous wind of heaven
broke through. He found the way.

Dates for '60

Dates for 1960 board meetings have no been announced. Usually the Board o Evangelism and Social Service leads off, bu this year two other boards have earlie meetings. The Board of Christian Educatio annual meeting will be held February 9-1 the Board of Men, February 18-20; th Board of Evangelism and Social Service February 22-26.

Dates for other meetings are: Departmen of the Treasury, March 4; Missionary an Maintenance Department, March 7, Department of Pensions, March 9; Board o Finance, March 10; Board of Home Mi sions, March 25-31; Board of Oversea Missions, April 4-8; Board of Informatio and Stewardship, April 19-22; Board o Publication, April 25, 26; Board of College and Secondary Schools, April 26-28; Execu tive of General Council, May 3, 4.

Minister, Town Councillor

Weyburn, Sask., voters came out in fu force for the recent election of three men bers for a two-year council term. The Unite Church minister, the **Rev. Shaun Herro** ran second. He came to Canada in 195 from London where he was the editor o **The British Weekly,** and is a frequent con tributor to **The Observer.**

Education for Adults

"Has Christian education anything to d with the Woman's Association?" Thi question is to be explored in discussio material growing out of a two-day meetin in Young Church, Winnipeg, when 30 dele gates from the six Presbytery Woman Associations and 20 local Winnipeg W members considered what Manitoba Confe ence recognizes as the biggest single ta

Gift Suggestions: **BOOKS** **BIBLES** **BOOKS**

Solve your gift problems by ordering Bibles or other books for the family and friends. Begin with picture books for the youngest children.

THE UNITED CHURCH PUBLISHING HOUSE, *Retail Department*
299 QUEEN STREET WEST, TORONTO 2-B, CANADA

cing the church today — the Christian ucation of adults. They heard the Rev. H. Searle of Knox Church, Brandon, who phasized that the WA must always have fore it the total claim of the Gospel, and e Rev. R. S. Harper, Christian education ld secretary, who developed the theme at the purpose of Christian education is place God at the centre and to bring the dividual into right relationship with Him.

ission in the Maritimes

A mission in Brunswick St. Church, Hali-x, brought out an overflow congregation r the first meeting to hear the missioner, e **Rev. George Morrison,** assistant secretary the Board of Home Missions. Presbytery onsored a mass meeting of 1,600 people the Capital Theatre. Presbytery Chairman . H. E. Campbell presided, assisted by hn Quigley, Men's Council president, Dr. C. Chalmers, Pine Hill, and Dr. A. E. err, Dalhousie University president. At a ception following the final service, Mr. orrison received gifts and expressions of preciation from church and civic leaders. In addition to the special services, Mr. orrison spoke at noonday gatherings, dressed high school students and members the faculty and students of commerce Dalhousie University.

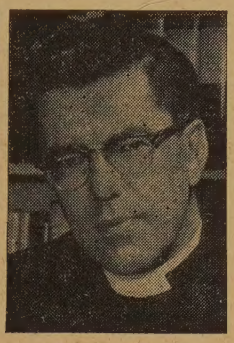
xpansion in New York

Riverside Church's new block-wide, eight-orey South Wing was opened in special remonies during the first week in Decem-r. At 122nd St. and Claremont Avenue, ew York, it will provide chapels, additional urch school classes, committee and dining oms, and an auditorium to seat 1,000 ople. There is a professionally designed ea for the presentation of religious drama. The whole seventh floor is given over to nursery-kindergarten, and the eighth floor is a roof garden. The Rev. Robert McCracken, formerly of McMaster University, is the minister of this church made famous by Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, now minister emeritus.

On Radio and Television

The **Rev. W. Grant MacDonald,** St. James United Church, Dartmouth, N.S., will broad-

Mr. MacDonald



Mr. Morgan

cast in the CBC's Church of the Air series, December 27, 4.30-5 pm, EST.

The service at **MacKay United Church,** Ottawa, will be broadcast over CBLT, Channel 6, at 11.00 a.m. December 20th. The minister, the Rev. Frank Morgan will preach.

Study on Rhodes

During July, August and September next year, an ecumenical study centre will be established for Christian unity discussions on the Island of Rhodes. This was announced by Orthodox Archbishop Iakovos.

No Deaconess Available

None of the churches at the Lakehead has a deaconess or a social worker with a definite church background. Realizing the seriousness of this situation, the Missionary and Maintenance Committee of Wesley United Church, Fort William, with the endorsation of the Session, passed a resolution asking Superior Presbytery to consider setting aside a Sunday this winter to bring to congregations the great need for more volunteers for the full-time work of the United Church as trained deaconesses, social workers and nurses.

Canadians in Germany

One hundred and thirty-nine children whose fathers are with the Canadian forces in West Germany, and who are members of St. Matthew's chapel, Fort Victoria, attended a special church school in the Department of National Defence school building during their holidays. Eighteen leaders, made up of mothers and a number of soldiers, carried out the 10-day school. Worship, Bible study, singing, games and handicrafts made up the programme. Two of the soldiers taught wood-working to the boys, and the completed pieces were displayed with other work on parents' night, at the conclusion of the school. The offering went to a local boys' orphanage.

Explanations in Vancouver

The proposed new woman's organization was explained to over 500 women from Vancouver - South and Vancouver - Burrard Presbyteries at a recent mass meeting in Vancouver. **Mrs. John Y. MacKinnon,** president of the Dominion Council Woman's

(Over)

see the church at work while you holiday in the sun!

A CONDUCTED TOUR OF

Bermuda • Trinidad • Barbados

THE OBSERVER TROPICS TOUR

March 19 to April 2, 1960

$543.00 From Toronto via TCA

Transportation, accommodation, most meals, sight-seeing, gratuities included.

ACCOMMODATION IS LIMITED
— BOOK NOW —

See Bermuda churches and Trinidad missions — relax in Barbados

sight-seeing, receptions, concert, surf-bathing, shopping, fellowship

CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW — CLIP AND MAIL NOW

The United Church Observer Tropics Tour
85 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto 7, Ontario

A deposit of $35 on each reservation must be paid by January 16th.

I am interested in joining the 1960 tour:

☐ Reserve accommodation for ..... person(s), for which I enclose deposit of $....., or payment in full of $.....

☐ Please send further information.

Name..... *Tel. No.*.....

Address.....

Association, reported on the progress of the commission on the work of women in the church. This meeting was one of many addressed by Mrs. MacKinnon during a six weeks' tour of western Canada.

First TB Refugees Arriving

One group of tubercular refugees and their families will arrive at Malton airport December 16, Immigration Minister Ellen Fairclough has announced. A second will reach Canada on Christmas Eve.

They are the first of 100 cases—50 from Italy and 50 from Austria—Canada's contribution towards the re-settlement of hard-core refugees during World Refugee Year.

With their families, they will number between 400 and 500 people. They will be brought on special planes with medical care provided, and on arrival will go to hospitals in the Toronto and Hamilton districts, and their families cared for.

In Toronto's Suburbs

The new Christian education wing of the **Northlea United Church,** Toronto, made necessary by steadily increasing congregations, was dedicated November 1. Taking part were the minister, the Rev. J. M. Butler, Toronto Centre Presbytery chairman, the Rev. W. W. Jones, and the Rev. D. C. Amos, the former minister.

Publishing House Notes

Christmas Greetings

A very Happy Christmas to all readers from the Editors and Staff of The Publishing House.

The Book Steward.

Professional Cards

ARCHITECTS

Bruce Brown & Brisley
— ARCHITECTS —
48 JACKES AVE. . . TORONTO

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Edwards, Browne & Co.
— CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS —
10 ADELAIDE ST. E. TORONTO 1, ONT.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

McCall Bros
— FLORAL FUNERAL CHAPEL —
1400 VANCOUVER ST., VICTORIA, B.C.
EV. 5-4465

Big Year For Winnipeg

A new 1¼ million dollar arts and science building was opened at United College, Winnipeg, on December 4, with Manitoba Premier Duff Roblin officiating. The Rt. Rev. Angus J. MacQueen, moderator of the United Church General Council, gave the prayer of dedication, and Board of Colleges and Secondary Schools Chairman Dr. C. Andrew Lawson addressed the gathering.

The modern building boasts the most up-to-date equipment, and a unique lighting system. Its side walls are almost completely windows, and best possible use is made of oblique natural light.

Last year's record of 763 in arts and science was left behind when the fall term opened. Enrolment this year is well past the 825 mark.

"This tangible evidence of continued faith in United College is most gratifying," said Principal Dr. W. C. Lockhart. "With a complete and highly competent faculty, a new teaching building and an all-time high in registrations for arts and science, we are looking forward to a most successful year."

During the summer months, 454 students were enrolled in a summer school for collegiate students, an increase of 66 over the previous year.

Colvin Goes to Ghana

The **Rev. Tom Colvin** is taking a new post at Tamale, Ghana. The Church of Scotland missionary who had been designated as general secretary of the Synod of Blantyre, was excluded from the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland for serving as a member of a delegation which carried a protest to London on the turbulent racial situation in Nyasaland.

Students' Christmas Conference

About 3,000 students from more than 100 countries will attend the 18th Ecumenical Conference on the Christian World Mission, to be held at the University of Ohio, Athens, during the Christmas University vacation. Over 400 campus study groups are now preparing for it.

The Conference is sponsored by the Commission on World Mission of the new National Student Christian Federation, which includes the student Christian movements of the major Protestant denominations and of the YMCA and YWCA. Sessions will be addressed by such world leaders as the Rt. Rev. Lesslie Newbigin, bishop of the Church of South India and general secretary of the International Missionary Council, and the Rev. Martin Luther King, who led the bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama. They will deal with modern problems, including racial tensions, new nationalism and militant non-Christian faiths.

Between 50 and 60 fireside discussions will be held each evening on subjects students feel to be the critical issues and situations for the church today, and the needs, opportunities and responsibilities of the Christian in various occupations.

Plan Alcoholism Studies

A joint United States-Canadian commission to make a five-year study of alcoholism in both nations has been announced by H. David Archibald, Toronto, president of the North American Association of Alcoholic Programmes.

It will investigate current action against alcoholism and make recommendations for the future. Studies will be made in every state and province where there is work going on in treatment and rehabilitation, research into causes and consequences, and in public and professional education in the disease.

"Scientific knowledge of alcoholism as a disease and as a social problem is to be examined and re-evaluated," Mr. Archibald said. "The goal is to learn how alcoholism has reached its present state in both countries and to search out better ways of dealing with the problem."

Mr. Archibald will head an interim committee to appoint the 25 members of the commission. A director is also to be named.

Gowland Coming Back

Industrial chaplain - evangelist, the Rev. **William Gowland** of Luton, England, who made a favourable impression on United Church members during the Mission to the Nation in 1958, will return in 1960 under the auspices of the Board of Evangelism and Social Service and the Board of Men.

Dr. Gowland

He will be in Canada April 19 to May 18 and will follow up work started in a number of centres from Sydney, N.S., to Vancouver, B.C. "The Church and Industry" will be the theme of three-day conferences for ministers and laymen.

Mutchmor Praises Labour

Ninety per cent. of all organized labour activities have been reputable and good, the Rev. J. R. Mutchmor, Secretary of the United Church's Board of Evangelism and Social Service, told the fifth annual conference on evangelism at Chatham, Ont. He urged churches to help labour strengthen its code of ethics and join it in common objectives such as housing, health, social security and aid to underprivileged countries. He said he did not believe labour abused its powers, adding that labour's decency record compared favourably with that of business, finance, industry and government.

"Labour racketeering is not as bad as stockateering or other related irregular practices in business," he said.

* * * *

Two men from the United Church House have won a poster design competition. The **Rev. Sterling Kitchen** of the Missionary and Maintenance Department, and **Willis Wheatley** of Sunday School Publications collaborated in producing the prize design for the Department of Stewardship and Benevolence, the National Council of Churches, U.S.A.

Correction

Owing to a typographical error in a communication from the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, the time of Canada's recognition of Korea given in Mrs. Vipond's December 1st article, is incorrect. Canada recognized South Korea, July 14, 1949.

Year Book Corrections

The Rev. J. B. Spencley,
183 Princess St.,
Peterborough, Ont.

The Rev. F. Stride,
82 Brighton Ave.,
Brantford, Ont.

The Rev. Bryce H. Wallace, D.D.,
Ste. 202, 1975 Haro St.,
Vancouver 5, B.C.

PERSONAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

15c. per word, min. charge $4.00. 4 or more nsecutive insertions, 15% discount. Box No., .25 per insertion extra. Display heading: 1st line .50 extra, each additional line $1.15 extra. assified Display, $2.05 per agate line. Pulpit cancies, Birth and Death Notices at regular ssified rates.

Copy must be in 3 weeks before date of issue

THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER

299 Queen St. West, Toronto 2-B, Ont.

DEATH

OTT—The United Church of Canada at Barrhead, berta, pays tribute to the late Norman Scott, who tered life at Lancaster, Ontario, September 27th, 96, and entered his eternal reward on September th, 1959. A druggist in Barrhead since 1927, rman transferred from Knox United in Edmonton Barrhead United in 1929, where he was a charter mber and elder until his death. Faithful and pected in Church, home and Community life, is greatly missed by his family and his friends.

HELP WANTED

OMPANION-HOUSEKEEPER—Middle-aged, for semi-invalid lady in small Ontario village. mfortable apartment; conveniences, permanent sition. Some practical nursing experience helpful. eferences. Box 136, THE UNITED CHURCH BSERVER, Toronto.

AGENTS WANTED

XTRA cash in Your Spare Time. Just show your friends our All-Occasion Greeting Cards ncluding Religious), Stationery, Gifts. Write for mples. Colonial Card Ltd., 489-C Queen East, ronto 2.

RELIGIOUS Print distributor seeks church members to sell religious prints from catalog to embers and friends. 25% commission paid to ent. Send particulars to Box 144, THE UNITED URCH OBSERVER.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

ELL made-to-measure clothes direct to wearer. Beautiful samples assure success. Full or part-ne. Low prices, high commissions, free suit nuses. Experience not necessary. Write for agency. nwyck Tailoring Co., Dept. X, Box 3016, ontreal.

RETIRED OR RETIRING MINISTERS

URORA United Church, Aurora, Ontario, needs a part-time pastoral assistant to help with the iting, and on Sundays. Retired or retiring min-ers please contact Mr. Charles Copland, Aurora, tario, Clerk of Session.

NURSES WANTED

URSES needed — two fully trained nurses and two trained practical nurses required for rk in 60-bed United Church Mission Hospital in rthern British Columbia. An opportunity for ristian service. Apply Medical Superintendent, rinch Memorial Hospital, Hazelton, B.C.

PULPIT VACANCIES

DAUPHIN, Man. — The pulpit of the Dauphin First United Church will become vacant Dec. . Modern manse, oil heating, excellent educa-nal facilities. Please write V. H. Rampton, Box 7, Dauphin, Man.

JERSEYVILLE Charge requires minister for three point charge. Duties to commence January 1st, 60. Minimum salary, furnished manse with oil at. Interested ministers please write or contact . Percy Revill, 119 Jerseyville Road, Jerseyville, tario.

LINDEN - CARNARVON, thriving three - point charge in Haliburton Highlands, 400 families, ditions to all churches just completed, study in urch, modern oil-heated manse. Salary $3,900.00 s $800.00 car allowance. Interested ministers ease contact Mr. Ross Harrison, Carnarvon, Ont.

TONEY CREEK pulpit will become vacant on December 31st. Growing congregation of 700 nilies in suburban area. Modern well decorated nse. Excellent educational advantages. Salary ove minimum. Interested ministers please write . J. Ludberg, Chairman Pastoral Relations Com-ttee, 39 Donn Ave., Stoney Creek, Ont.

TORONTO, Ont., Dentonia Park United Church will become vacant February 1st, 1960. Com-tably furnished manse. Interested ministers please ite or contact Mr. W. G. Bockmaster, 153 leridge Ave., Toronto 13.

2A. PULPIT VACANCIES—Continued

UNIQUE challenge for ecumenically minded minister for one-point charge, Terrace Bay Community Church, serving all Protestants in the model town of 1,900 people. Present minister will reach retirement age June 30th, 1960, having served this Church the past twelve years. Furnished modern manse, oil heated, salary well above minimum, main line C.P.R., on Trans-Canada Highway 140 miles east of Lakehead. Interested ministers write to Mr. John Ferrier, Box 118, Terrace Bay, Ontario.

WINDSOR, Ontario, Westminster United Church, pulpit vacant June 30th, 1960. Furnished manse, above minimum salary, car allowance. Interested ministers please write Mr. E. L. Riggs, Chairman of Pastoral Relations Committee, 2464 Gladstone, Windsor, Ont.

4. PULPIT SUPPLY AVAILABLE

RETIRED, ordained United Church minister. Acceptable preacher, available any time, anywhere. If desired could, with wife, occupy manse and look after necessary pastoral work during interim between pastorates. Box 142, THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER.

A YOUNG, married, ordained minister wishes to do further study. He seeks a Pastoral Charge, near a University, where the privilege of study may be granted. Write 143, THE UNITED CHURCH OBSERVER, Toronto.

5. CHOIR PERSONNEL

ORGANIST - CHOIRLEADER for Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls, Ont. Write, stating qualifications and salary expected. Duties to start immediately. C. J. Sheppard, Smiths Falls, Ont.

6. ASSISTANT MINISTERS WANTED

BLOOR Street United Church, Toronto, Ontario, desires Assistant Minister. Those interested should write to Chairman, Pastoral Relations Committee, 300 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ont.

PASTORAL Assistant for Whitby United Church. Retired minister preferred. Write R. G. Grobb, 324 Lyndeview Drive, Whitby, Ontario.

7. CHURCH SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT

CHURCH LIGHTING SPECIALISTS

DESIGNS and estimating free. The Colonial Lighting Co. Ltd., Box 192, Port Colborne, Ont.

FOR SALE — 7 LePage Communion Sets — good condition. Any reasonable price accepted. Suitable for small churches. Write Mr. Elwood Smith, 16 Dufferin St., Guelph, Ont.

CHOIR GOWNS

WESTERN Canada's leading manufacturer of Gowns, Collars and Hats. Samples sent without obligation. Mallabar, 375 Hargrave St., Winnipeg.

8. ORGANS, MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

A-AARIA ORGAN AND PIANO CO. Pipe Organs of finest quality created for Beauty and Tone. Pipe Organs with electro-pneumatic, tubular-pneumatic and tracker action and of any size built to suit your particular requirements will be installed and serviced in any locality from coast to coast.

SERVICE

Does your present Pipe Organ need servicing?

Our experts repair, tune, electrify, build, rebuild, remodel or move Organs from one location to another within the church or to new quarters. We will add to your Organ, chimes, harps or sets of additional pipes and stops. Maintenance contracts are available for your convenience. We buy used Pipe Organs for cash or will take them as trade-in on new ones. For free estimates and further information write to: **A-Aaria Organ and Piano Co. Mfg.**, c/o Harry Lisius, M.A., President, Box 183, Station "K" Toronto 12, or telephone Newmarket TW 5-9944.

PIPE ORGANS. No electronic device can equal the true tone of a Pipe Organ. New pipe organs from $3,000.00 and up. All material and workmanship guaranteed. Rebuilding and remodeling. Plans and estimate free. South East Organ Company, 33 Harrison Avenue, Port Credit, Ont.

8A. STAMPS

GIGANTIC Collection Free. Includes triangles, early United States, animals, commemoratives, British Colonies, high value pictorials, etc. Complete collection plus big illustrated magazine all free. Send 5c. for postage. Gray Stamp Co., Dept. UC, Toronto, Canada.

9. ARTICLES FOR SALE

A COMPLETE set (12 vols.) of The Interpreter's Bible in excellent condition. Inquire — 30 Uplands St., Thornhill, Ont., Tel. AV. 5-4119.

9. ARTICLES FOR SALE (Continued)

PRE-CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
Beautiful Silver Plate

FOUR-PIECE silver tea service. Large round tray, six cup tea pot, cream and sugar, in attractive design. Finest Canadian made silver plate on solid copper. Regular $19.95, Christmas special $17.95 delivered. C.O.D. extra. Polishing cloth free with each order. Write for catalogue of other items at exceptional savings. Associations and clubs, ask about our fund raising plan. Murford Company, 1554 Yonge St., Toronto 7.

PEWS—Used pews for 200 sittings available on or before February 15th. Offers received at BA. 1-1022, Newtonbrook United Church, Willowdale, Ontario.

STACKING Chairs and Tables. Also Folding Chairs, Banquet Tables, Pews. Very reasonable prices. H. H. Freeman & Co., 163 Times Road, Toronto 19.

"TYPEWRITER SALE!"

UNDERWOOD, Remington, Royal, Smith Standard, $39.50. Recent Remington and Underwood Noiseless with all latest features, complete with typing desk, $59.50. Portable desk model adding machine adds to 99,999.99, subtracts, $19.95. Each fully guaranteed. Deposit $5.00, balance C.O.D. Crown Typewriter, 1011 Bleury, Montreal, Quebec.

UNSHRINKABLE Wool, nylon reinforced, 3 or 4 ply. Good colours. 3 ounces $1.00, postpaid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Prompt attention to all orders, large or small. Order now. Other wool clearings available. Free list. Beacock's, 1019 Pape, Toronto.

9A. CARPET BALLS

THE SUPERIOR "Henselite" Carpet Balls and Carpets, for Churches, Fraternal Societies and Clubs are available from The A. A. Langford Bowls Co., 424 Wellington St., London, Ontario.

9B. ARTS & CRAFTS

FOR carving wood, leather, or many other uses; set of 12 knives—$1.98. Each knife a different shape. Develop creative talents. Cash with order to James Enterprises, Box 113, Weston, Ontario.

12. GUEST HOMES

"COUNTRY ACRES," Armitage, Ontario, select Guest Home offers permanent or temporary accommodation for older people. Must be in good health. Excellent food. Phone Newmarket TW 5-4383.

24. PERSONAL

AUTHORS invited submit MSS all types (including Poems) for book publication. Reasonable terms. Stockwell Ltd., Ilfracombe, England. (Estd. 1898).

THE THIEF OF GOOD HEALTH

CONSTIPATION. Royal Herbs, pleasant, comfortable, registered Tonic - laxative, pure as food, also aids digestion. Trial 10c. Write Century Products, London, Ontario.

HEARING IMPROVED

FOR many who have used Leonard's Invisible Ear Drums. $10.00 complete kit, or ask for free information and testimonials from many who have been helped. A. O. Leonard Company, Dept. F, Box 306, Station F., Toronto 5.

RUPTURED?

RELIEF and comfort. No understrap. No elastic. No steel. Write: Smith Manufacturing Co., Dept. 135, Preston, Ont.

STAMMERING Corrected. Helpful booklet gives full information. Free copy. Write William Dennison, 553-K Sherbourne, Toronto.

RUPTURED?
SICK-AND-TIRED OF PAINFUL TRUSSES THAT DON'T DO THE JOB?

STOP worrying!! Thousands of users testify and Doctors agree, you can really end your troubles with a "Beasley". This famous British Appliance holds so comfortably, you'll hardly know you're wearing it. Inflatable air cushions with the large end at the bottom, support as easily as with the hand, and hold securely under any strain. Beasley Appliances are simple to fit, inexpensive and washable. They give instant relief and are guaranteed satisfactory. Free illustrated booklet explains rupture and gives details of generous trial offer. Without obligation, write Dept. 6, Beasley's Ltd., 60 Front St. West, Toronto.

25. SERVICES OFFERED

GLASS LINERS for Silver Salts - Peppers, etc. Quality silverplating and repairing. Tarnish proofed if desired. Information, estimates free. Raymond Dalton, 54 Raglan Avenue, Toronto 10, Ont. LE. 6-7788.

MAKER of all types of Church Cabinets, Lecterns, Pedestals, Baptismal Fonts, Notice Boards, etc. Robt. M. Dickerson, 133 Avon Ave., Toronto 9. Inquiries solicited. RO. 9-7185.

Keep Christ in Christmas

"O Come . . . Journey again to Bethlehem where, one Holy Night, Jesus the Saviour was born.

Let us . . . kneel beside the lowly manger bed with wondering shepherds and wise men of old, bringing our offerings of gratitude and praise.

Adore Him" . . . "The Word of God Incarnate" . . . God's most priceless Gift . . . the supreme revelation of His Love for all mankind.

Christmas — **not merely a "holiday" — but a "HOLY DAY"**

THE BOARD OF EVANGELISM AND SOCIAL SERVICE - THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
85 ST. CLAIR AVENUE EAST, TORONTO 7, ONTARIO

THINK — DON'T DRINK